‘BIG CHANGES’ COMING AT OLG: SOURCES, PG 3

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TORONTO • MONDAY, AUGUST 31, 2009
metrone

Celebrity Buzz

Details emerge in death of DJ AM
pg 29

Boy charged with murder of father

SHOOTING Police have charged a 10-year-old New Mexico boy with first-degree murder in the shooting death of his father.

Police say the boy called Belen, N.M., police, who arrived at the family’s home Thursday to find 42-year-old Byron Hilburn shot once in the head.

Police say the boy used his own rifle to shoot his father.

Police say the boy told them he thought his father was disciplining him too harshly and too often.

They believe the boy’s six-year-old sister witnessed the shooting. Authorities say she’s with family members. Hilburn was pronounced dead at an Albuquerque hospital, KOAT-TV reported.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jonas Brothers **Invade Toronto**

The Jonas Brothers returned to MuchMusic for a Live@Much event and made headlines. In a MuchMusic exclusive, Kevin confirmed that both of his brothers will fill the role of best man at his upcoming wedding to Danielle Deleasa. The Jonas Brothers performed in front of a packed Rogers Centre last night. **Metro’s concert reviewer says band still lacking substance, page 26.**

Higher e-learning

Digital textbooks offering students cheaper alternative

Like most university students heading back to school, Kerry Alvarez is preparing to make her annual donation to the campus book store.

The third-year sociology student at Hamilton’s McMaster University says she expects to shell out more than $400 on textbooks this semester alone.

“I don’t really like it,” said Alvarez, 23. “Money is really tight, especially with the economy and all.”

It’s perhaps no surprise that the dwindling bank accounts of students like Alvarez, coupled with the popularity of technology like Apple’s iPhone, has led to the emergence of a cheap alternative to the bulky tomes of days past: Downloadable digital textbooks.

Download one from CourseSmart LLC, an online marketplace for digital textbooks, and you’ll gain access to a document that’s got all the charts, tables, and graphics as a physical book — for about half the price, according to the company.

The National Association of College Stores — a U.S. group that also represents 72 Canadian stores — predicts that digital textbooks, while currently representing only a tiny portion of the market, could account for 15 per cent of all university textbook sales by 2011-12.

“I think it’s a very good trend,” said Colleen O’Neill, executive director of the Canadian Publishers’ Council’s higher education and trade division.

E-textbooks have been available in Canada for four or five years, mostly through pilot projects, said O’Neill.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

E-textbooks

- In 2007, Montreal’s Concordia University became the first post-secondary institution in Canada to offer e-textbooks, as they’re also known.
- E-textbooks currently garner a market share of about five to eight per cent, reports the Canadian Publishers’ Council.

Afghan voter fraud claims climb above 550

ELECTION Allegations of fraud in Afghanistan’s presidential election topped 550 yesterday, more than doubling the figure investigators reported just two days earlier, officials said.

The spike indicates just how pervasive ballot box stuffing and voter intimidation may have been during the country’s Aug. 20 vote, threatening the legitimacy of the election.

The hundreds of complaints could also greatly delay final results, which cannot be announced until major fraud allegations have been investigated, and are already not expected until mid-September at the earliest.

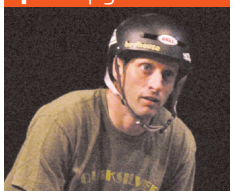
A delay could create a power vacuum in Afghanistan and the volume of allegations could foment violence if people feel they have been cheated. Partial results of the vote so far show President Hamid Karzai leading with 46.2 per cent of votes, and top challenger Abdullah Abdullah with 31.4 per cent. The count is based on votes from 35 per cent of the country.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Shooting

- An election official was seriously wounded in the south yesterday. Gunmen on motorbikes drove up to the home of the second-highest electoral official in Kandahar province and shot him as he walked out of his front gate to go to work.

Sports pg 20



Tony Hawk lands at CNE

Comment pg 16

Winning mom brownie points

Workology pg 21

The workplace double standard

†Speed performance claims based on comparing download speed of Rogers 3.5G HSPA network and competitors’ 1xEvdo networks within Rogers HSPA coverage area. Speed may vary depending on the handset, topography and environmental conditions, network congestion and other factors. HSPA network not available in all areas. See rogers.com/rocket for coverage details.
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Man arrested for sexual assault

Durham Region police arrested a 24-year-old man they say broke into a sleeping woman's home and sexually assaulted her. Around 3 a.m. on May 30 the victim was asleep at her Oshawa home near Gibbons and King street when a man broke in and touched her inappropriately, said police. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Local

Underwear run raises $780,000

On Saturday, 1,026 runners and walkers came together in the streets of Toronto to dress down and expose cancers below the waist. North York General Hospital's Underwear Affair, a 10K run/5K walk, raised $780,000 to enhance the hospital's cancer care program. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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INDEX

Canada Pg 7
World Pg 12
Comment Pg 16
Business Pg 17
Going Green Pg 18
Sports Pg 19
Workology Pg 21
Entertainment Pg 24
TV Listings Pg 28
Celebrity Buzz Pg 29
Take Five Pg 30

Tomorrow's Metro

The J Spot

Josey Vogels talks about a new TV show that helps women get over nasty breakups.

metronews.ca
What's online today.

Immigration Is a DUI conviction enough to keep you from crossing the border? Guidy Mamann has the answer at **metronews.ca/immigration**

Lotteries

Friday, Aug. 28
Lotto Super 7: 2, 10, 12, 33, 42, 44 & 45. Bonus 25.
Saturday, Aug. 29
Lotto 6/49: 9, 10, 26, 29, 32 & 37. Bonus 12.
Sunday, Aug. 30
Ontario Pick 3: 7 5 6; **Ontario Pick 4 :** 5 9 2 4
Encore: 2637239
Daily Keno: 4, 5, 6, 8, 11, 20, 22, 25, 27, 32, 35, 40, 44, 45, 50, 55, 57, 61, 64, 67.
These results are not official.

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Lottery shakeup expected

OLG chief could be a casualty in Liberal's attempts to fix agency

Finance Minister Dwight Duncan will announce "big changes" today at the problem-plagued Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corp., sources say.

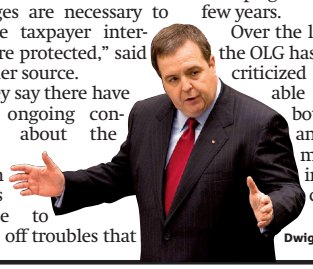
"The government feels (the OLG) needs to change its ways," a senior government source told The Canadian Press. "The OLG will have to clean up its act."

There are reports that OLG CEO Kelly McDougald, who was hired in 2007 after stints at Bell Canada and Nortel Networks, is fighting to keep her job and that other executives may be on their way out.

But government sources wouldn't elaborate on whether a management shakeup is in the works, saying things are still in a "state of flux."

"We will make whatever changes are necessary to ensure taxpayer interests are protected," said another source.

They say there have been ongoing concerns about the OLG, which seems unable to shake off troubles that have plagued it over the last few years.



Dwight Duncan

Over the last two years, the OLG has been sharply criticized for questionable insider wins, botched scratch-and-win tickets, malfunctioning slot machines, even buying foreign cars as casino prizes at a time when thousands of Ontario auto workers were losing their jobs.

The OLG is also facing a $3.5-billion lawsuit from a gambling addict who claims gaming staff allowed him to keep gambling even though he had authorized them to keep him out of the casino. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Buskerfest **Metro's People's Choice Award**

MARK HAMILTON/ARVANTOCK PHOTOGRAPHY

Metro's Enza Anderson, right, presents the Metro People's Choice Award to Jacob and Sophie McGrath from Dream State Circus at the 10th annual Buskerfest yesterday.

Website aims to sell guns online in Canada

INTERNET It's like an EBay for guns.

When Dennis Hingsberg's website, GunAddicts.com, launches tomorrow, firearm lovers from across the country will be able to buy and auction off guns to their fellow arms enthusiasts.

"It might touch the sensitivities of some people, but they don't realize how popular guns are in this country," said Hingsberg, of Mississauga.

Hingsberg conceived of the website after struggling to find a place to buy firearms on the Internet.

Any exchanges on GunAddicts will follow federal gun rules, Hingsberg said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Care of mother versus unborn child at issue

COURTS Does an obstetrician have a duty of care to an unborn child?

A Guelph hospital, citing a 2008 court decision that found a doctor had no such obligation in the case of a girl born with birth defects because of an acne drug prescribed to her mother, says no.

But the family of another child say yes.

The issue will be argued today in a London, Ont., courtroom. The Liebig family has brought a motion before the courts on behalf of their 8-year-old son, Kevin, born with hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy, or brain damage caused by oxygen deprivation.

He has since been diagnosed with cerebral palsy — the result, his family says, of negligence on the part of three obstetricians and four obstetrical nurses at the birthing unit of Guelph General Hospital.

"I think that's a jaw-dropping proposition and I bet you that most obstetricians wouldn't agree."
Barbara Legate, lawyer

The Liebigs claim that the mother, Susan, was given too much of the drug oxytocin to speed up labour and then not adequately monitored.

The defendants deny the allegations, which have not been proven in court.

The family's lawyer, Barbara Legate, says the defendants are claiming to have no duty toward an unborn child.

"I think that's a jaw-dropping proposition and I bet you that most obstetricians wouldn't agree," Legate says. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Trio charged in Ajax stabbing

Durham region police charged three men with aggravated assault for an Ajax stabbing that sent a man to a Toronto trauma centre by air ambulance. Javade Gray, 19, of Toronto, Spencer Lewis Isenor, 21, of Pickering and a 17-year-old from Ajax face weapon and assault charges. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Ghanian Queen calls Brampton home

After more than 20 years abroad, ordinary Canadian thrust into leadership role

To her friends and neighbours in Brampton, Margaret Adu is an ordinary citizen, a hard-working and loving mother.

But to the people in Adanse-Praso in Ghana, the Brampton woman is the anointed Queen Nana Serwaaprah, in charge of the well-being of the 2,000 tribesmen in the remote rural community that has no running water or electricity.

It is stressful and costly to be a tribal queen, especially when you have to govern a village in East Africa 8,707 kilometres away, from your comfortable suburban home in Canada.

The 18-hour flight to Ghana for the unpaid job can cost $2,000 — paid out of pocket and taken out of vacation time at work.

RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Nana Addai Amponsah, left, a Ghanian village chief and Nana Serwaaprah, village queen. Both have lived in Canada for over 20 years but return to Ghana to help run their villages.

"It is a lot of responsibility and I'm a working mother," said Adu, 44, a chef with Corrections Canada. "I don't sleep — always thinking what I can do to help these kids in the village. They have nothing and it's hard."

Adu is among an estimated 20 tribal queens and chiefs from Ghana who have made Greater Toronto home, but travel back and forth regularly to deal with village matters, said Kwasi Akuamoah-Boateng, an organizer of the 20,000-strong community in Greater Toronto.

"A queen is an adviser to the chief and the chief is the head of the village," explained Akuamoah-Boateng, also known as Nana Doggo.

"The system has been in place since the Portuguese came in 1471. The queen and the chief are treated like royalty. Everyone looks up to them."

Adu was tabbed to be queen two years ago when she returned home for the funeral of her maternal grandmother, her predecessor. The majestic titles of queens and chiefs are only passed down on the female side of the family.

"I said no to them," recalled Adu, who grew up in nearby Kumasi and was sponsored by an aunt to come to Canada in 1983. "We have a school, but there's no books and stationery. What am I going to do? They have all these needs and I'm still paying my mortgage."

But at the funeral, the title was forced upon her by her uncle. Still grieving, and wearing black attire, she was carried by seven men in a parade around town as the village's new queen.

"I had no choice but accepted it," said Adu, who spent six weeks there to learn about the village and will be back again for four weeks in November.

Other than the compound they inherit from their predecessors where they stay during their tenures, chiefs and queens aren't paid.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Province quiet on all-day school proposal

CHILDREN Six-year-old Ethan Podolsky can't wait to start Grade 1 next week and go to school all day for the first time. And his mother, Elissa, hopes her 3-year-old daughter, Lauren, will also get to spend all day at school when she starts junior kindergarten next year.

"I'm a big proponent of all-day kindergarten and I know my daughter will be ready," Podolsky says of the province's promise to introduce full-day learning for 4- and 5-year-olds next fall.

But will Ontario schools and daycares be ready?

And will Queen's Park also provide the so-called seamless day — that integrates childcare with learning from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. — as early learning adviser Charles Pascal recommended in June?

$1B Charles Pascal estimates the cost of the so-called seamless day program at $1 billion annually, including $500 million to expand or renovate schools.

With Ontario's economy in the dumps and elementary teachers quibbling over who should work in the classroom, supporters of Pascal's plan to transform local schools into community hubs for kids from birth to age 12 are nervous.

"The province has been very quiet. And frankly, that's been a worry," said parent advocate Annie Kidder of People for Education. "We need to see a commitment to the full vision that Charles has laid out that sees the whole child and the whole family in an integrated way. And we need to see how (the province) plans to proceed.

"If we just take a piece of this, it isn't going to cause the change that's needed," she said.

Pascal calls for teachers to continue to provide a half-day of instruction, with childcare workers covering the remainder of the school day and any before- and after-school care parents may need. The school-day portion would be publicly funded while parents would pay a modest fee for the rest, he suggests.

For students from Grades 1 to 6, schools would oversee after-school childcare when at least 15 families request it. Municipalities would oversee new childcare centres in schools for families with kids under age 3. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES

Man faces sex assault charges

CRIME A 50-year-old man has been arrested in the sexual assault of a friend's five-year-old son.

Toronto police say the youngster was attacked in the suspect's apartment bedroom on Sherbourne Street last Thursday.

The child told his mother about the alleged assault the following day and she called police, who arrested the neighbour on Saturday night.

Dennis James Taylor is charged with sexual assault and sexual interference. He was remanded in custody. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

SEIZURE The provincial Attorney General's office is using the Civil Remedies Act to drag Igor Kenk, who police allege ran a bike theft and drug-selling network, before a forfeiture hearing in an attempt to seize and sell off his property: The building itself, 927 Queen St. W., which Kenk estimates to be worth $700,000; two pickup trucks; and 2,292 stolen bicycles taken during a sting in July 2008 from properties Kenk owned or rented.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Five in hospital following crash

Five people were hospitalized following a collision in the Don Mills area Saturday night. Fire crews were called to the truck and car collision near Wynford Drive and Eglinton Avenue just before midnight because of smoke coming from one of the vehicles, police said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Bill Clinton lauds Canadian health care

A hoarse but energetic Bill Clinton told a Canadian audience that self-deprecating Canucks may poke fun at themselves, but said people worldwide would kill to live in an environment like this," the former American president said.

Clinton's speech "Embracing Our Common Humanity" praised Canada's healthcare system, but lamented the unequal distribution of wealth and opportunities between rural northern Canadians and those who live in urban centres.

10,000

Organizers had originally intended to sell 25,000 tickets to fill BMO Field, but only sold 10,000 seats.

Clinton spoke to a crowd at the Canadian National Exhibition Saturday afternoon, only hours after attending the funeral of U.S. Sen. Ted Kennedy in Boston.

"I hope that his lifetime dream that America finally will follow Canada and every other advanced nation in the world in providing affordable healthcare to all of our people will pass," Clinton said of Kennedy.

Clinton expressed hope that his country will follow Canada's lead and adopt a universal health care system.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bill Clinton at the CNE.

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What does a Star Trek fan smell like?

FAN EXPO Put down your phasers, Star Trek fans.

If you really want to stun the Trekkie of your affections, try spraying on a little sci-fi scent behind those Vulcan ears.

Riding on the buzz surrounding the science fiction series' latest movie, online fan merchandise company Genki Wear is selling three new fragrances, the idea of which were met with mixed reviews among Trekkies yesterday at Fan Expo in Toronto yesterday.

Peter Palermo, a 42-year-old college professor, said he would buy the Pon Farr, a scent based on the mating cycle where Vulcans are thrown into blood fever every seven years and can only survive if they passionately make love. Apparently the right choice, as Pon Farr was also Leonard Nimoy's pick. "Really?" he said when the Toronto Star told him about the cologne, his eyes lighting up. "Let's go for that one."

Also for sale

- Star Fleet Academy sporks (You know, because it sounds like Spock?)
- Highly intoxicating, very blue Romulan ale
- A car horn that blares the original Star Trek theme
- Delta Shield cufflinks
- Star Trek communicator replica

The second of the three scents is Tiberius, named after Captain James Tiberius Kirk. The online company describes it as a cologne that "embodies bravery and spirit, blending chemistry and emotion." Apparently, citron, black pepper and white musk will do that.

And the last scent, Red Shirt, is advertised under the slogan: "Smell like the future, because tomorrow may never come," referring to the expendable extras who more often than not get killed during a mission.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Remnants of Danny hit Newfoundland

Forecasters said the remnants of post-tropical storm Danny would pass over Newfoundland yesterday, drenching southern and western portions of the island. The Canadian Hurricane Centre said moisture associated with the system would bring between 50 and 80 millimetres of rain to the province. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

PM won't fire MP over anthem criticism

Prime Minister Stephen Harper is rejecting calls to oust a member of his cabinet from a former New Brunswick school principal who stopped the daily playing of O Canada. Erik Millett said Friday that Veterans Affairs Minister Greg Thompson should be fired unless he apologizes for comments made earlier this year criticizing the anthem decision. PMO spokesman Dimitri Soudas said Harper stands by Thompson and does not intend to dismiss him from cabinet. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Flood of Tory patronage

PM's cabinet backs appointments that reward faithful

Weeks before Stephen Harper named some of his closest Tory friends to the Senate, his cabinet quietly approved a flood of appointments to federal boards that also rewarded party faithful.

At least 20 of the 111 appointments made Aug. 4 went to identifiable federal and provincial Conservative donors and supporters.

That includes a failed candidate in Vancouver, a top organizer with the Nova Scotia party, and a would-be Senate nominee from Alberta.

The postings come with per diems of up to $450 for part-time positions and salaries of up to $118,000 a year for full-time posts.

Some of the bodies involved were: the Immigration and Refugee Board, Canada Pension Plan review tribunals, employment insurance referee boards, the parole board, coastal pilotage authorities, port authorities and museum boards.

ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Stephen Harper meets with Canada's ambassador-designate to the United States, Gary Doer, on Parliament Hill on Friday.

Nearly a third of the posts were first-time assignments and the remainder were renewals of three-year terms set to expire in late October or November.

Appointments

- Conservative appointments to courts, boards, quasi-judicial tribunals and Crown corporations now total an estimated 3,000 since Harper became prime minister.

The rush of appointments followed a little-noticed series of judicial appointments to superior courts across the country in July.

That round brought the total number of superior court judges appointed by the Harper government to 201 since 2006.

It also further fuelled opposition claims that the prime minister has abandoned election promises of transparency and merit-based public service and judicial appointments.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Liberals agonizing yet again about forcing election

POLITICS Michael Ignatieff seems destined to emerge from a Liberal caucus retreat this week feeling something like a pushmi-pullyu.

Like the fictional two-headed llama, the Liberal leader will be pushed and pulled in opposite directions as his MPs agonize over whether they should — finally — pull the plug on Stephen Harper's minority Conservative government.

It's a debate the MPs perfected during Stéphane Dion's troubled tenure as leader, repeatedly rattling their election sabres only to sheath them grudgingly when dismal opinion polls and the party's own lack of preparedness forced them to back down.

The should-we-or-shouldn't-we pattern has continued since Ignatieff took over last December.

And as Liberal MPs and senators prepare to gather in Sudbury this week to plot strategy for the resumption of Parliament on Sept. 14, election-mongering is already giving way to calls for delay, if not outright retreat.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

STEVE RUARK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Airman Mercedes McCoy-Garrett closes the door of a transfer vehicle containing the remains of Army Staff Sgt. Andrew Lobosco, pictured, and Canadian First Nation Army Cpl. Darby Morin, last Monday at Dover Air Force Base, Del.

Saskatchewan First Nation remembers young soldiers

DEATHS Grief and pride are tearing at a northern Saskatchewan First Nation as band members say goodbye to two young soldiers and rising stars who were killed in separate car crashes on the same day.

Kyle Whitehead, a private in the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, died Aug. 22 when a car he was driving on the Big River First Nation went into a ditch and rolled several times.

In another country thousands of kilometres away, another soldier from Big River, Sgt. Darby Morin, 25, who was serving with the U.S. Army, died in a vehicle rollover in Afghanistan.

"The young people that died here are certainly role models," Chief Lawrence Joseph of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations said after Whitehead's funeral Friday.

"This young man we buried ... made a choice as a young person to do something, extremely dangerous work when we know that there are conflicts around the world."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

EDUCATION Alberta will wait a year to implement Canada's first legislation giving parents the power under its human rights code to pull their children from lessons on religion, sex or sexual orientation.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Alberta imposes wage settlements
The Alberta government is imposing a wage settlement on teachers after months of wrangling over a new formula used to determine salary increases. THE CANADIAN PRESS

JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Members of the Canadian search dog association assist the RCMP searching a rural property Saturday on the outskirts of Prince George, B.C. Police are searching for the remains of hitchhiker Nicole Hoar.

Hitchhiker search expanded

MISSING Police and dozens of volunteers expanded the search Saturday for the remains of 25-year-old tree-planter Nicole Hoar, who disappeared seven years ago while hitchhiking what's come to be called the Highway of Tears.

At least nine women, all aboriginal except Hoar, vanished or were killed along Highway 16 since 1990, and perhaps three times that many over a period of decades.

RCMP say the disappearances and deaths are part of a broader investigation involving 19 women. But aboriginals say as many as 30 have disappeared along the 750-kilometre highway. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

WATER Many Canadians still struggle to acquire the potable kind. While very few places in Canada lack running water altogether, Health Canada reported almost 2,000 boil-water advisories across the country last year.

DEBATE Asian elephant Lucy is at the centre of a debate between the city-owned Edmonton Valley Zoo and a growing group of animal rights advocates over how she should spend her remaining years. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Survivors chide safety group

Transport Canada ignores reports recommending regulations, families say

The Transportation Safety Board, which investigates air, marine and rail accidents and makes recommendations for improved safety, does its job well, say survivors, the families of victims and a former judge who presided over the inquiry into one of Canada's worst-ever domestic plane crashes.

JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Kirsten Stevens is reflected in photograph of her husband, Dave, who died in a float plane crash.

But the TSB's reports are too often ignored by Transport Canada, the federal department in charge of regulating those industries, those same people have told The Canadian Press.

Kirsten Stevens said she's convinced her husband, Dave, would be alive had Transport Canada acted on two major safety reviews and numerous TSB investigations into float plane crashes.

After her husband's death in a float plane crash in 2005, Stevens started reading the numerous reports recommending passengers wear life-jackets during takeoff and landing.

Dave Stevens was wearing the float jacket that his wife bought him when he managed to get out of the wreck. A coroner's report says he had a head injury and hypothermia, but concluded he died by drowning.

Five months after the accident, when the plane was pulled from the water near Quadra Island, between central Vancouver Island and the B.C. mainland, Kirsten realized the other four people on board also managed to get out of the plane, but weren't wearing float jackets.

"That was when I really came out of shock, because I suddenly realized that he hadn't been out there by himself."

Kirsten, whose children were aged 11, four and two months when their father died, said she believes if everyone on board had been wearing life-jackets, they might have been able to band together, call for help and keep each other alive.

"But with only one little red guy floating in the middle of the water, instead of a big plane of five people yelling all together," she said, "he just didn't get found."

"He was out there with his friends and must have watched them go down one by one and sink in the water," she continued.

"They must have been hanging on to him."

That crash, along with several other similar incidents involving float planes across Canada, has set off yet another review. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jewish organizations get majority of security funding
Jewish organizations have received 84 per cent of the funding announcements under a federal program that provides security for groups at risk of being attacked in hate crimes, documents show. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Peterborough **Surf's up, dude**

CLIFFORD SKARSTEDT JR./THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fan John Stabler crowd surfs Saturday during headlining act Bedouin Soundclash at the Canadian Wakeboard Championships on Little Lake at Beavermead Park in Peterborough.

No drug war for Canada

A highly specialized task force of U.S., British and Australian commandos and narcotics enforcement officers has assembled at Kandahar Airfield with the mission of tracking down and eliminating Afghan drug lords, whose profits fuel the lethal Taliban insurgency.

The team, which American commanders in Kabul believe will be instrumental in turning the tide of the Afghan war, has no Canadian participation, according to senior officials in Ottawa. The federal government rarely acknowledges the special forces operations, but a spokesman for Defence Minister Peter MacKay said the burgeoning drug war is not among Canada's priorities and "our focus includes such things as training the (Afghan National Army) and the (provincial reconstruction team)," which is in charge of redevelopment. It's the latest step back for the Conservative government, which having initially embraced the war, has grown disillusioned with the costly struggle.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Task force

- Existence of the Joint Inter-Agency Task Force, which "will go after drug networks linked to the insurgency," was revealed in a recent report by the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

Newfoundland health minister faces heat over lack of paper trail

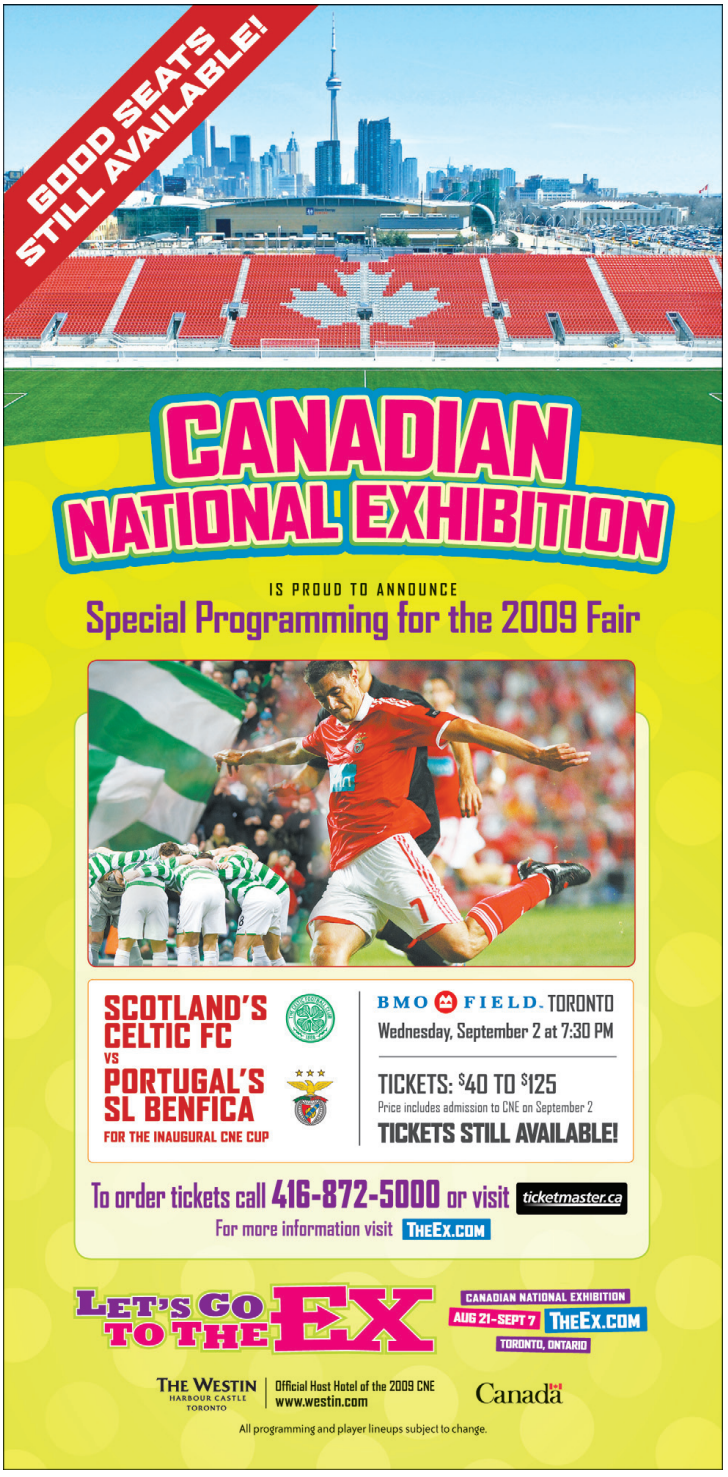
CRITICISM When Paul Oram became Newfoundland and Labrador's health minister last month, he declined briefing notes, instead asking his advisers to brief him orally, saying he could retain information better that way.

Now, after requests from media outlets in the province for his briefing notes under access-to-information laws turned up no records, that decision has come back to haunt him. He has come under intense criticism from pundits and politicians who have accused the government of attempting to avoid public scrutiny. "Not leaving trails is usually associated with much more ominous operations," said an editorial in the St. John's Telegram. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

LAW No charges will be laid against anyone who may have helped fugitive U.S. reality TV contestant Ryan Jenkins in his run home to Canada from California. Jenkins is the only suspect in the bloody slaying of his swimsuit-model ex-wife in San Diego, but RCMP say there isn't enough evidence to charge anyone who may have helped the former Calgary resident cross the border illegally into Canada.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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- Iran from..... 3.9 ¢
- Syria..... ..... 18.9 ¢
- Lebanon ..... 9.9 ¢
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Jimena reaches Category 4, grazes Mexican coastline

Jimena developed into a dangerous Category 4 storm off Mexico's Pacific coast yesterday, threatening to hit the Baja California peninsula as a major hurricane in coming days. Jimena swirled far enough away yesterday to spare Mexico's southwestern coastline. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Merkel's party to lose majorities: Poll

An exit poll shows Chancellor Angela Merkel's conservatives leading in three German state elections — weeks before a national vote — but set to lose majorities in two regions. The ARD television exit poll shows Merkel's Christian Democrats remaining the biggest party but losing their majorities in Saarland and Thuringia. They also appear unable to form centre-right coalitions there. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Opposition wins Japan vote

Japan's opposition swept to a historic victory in elections yesterday, crushing the ruling conservative party that has run the country for decades and assuming the task of pulling the economy out of its worst slump since the Second World War.

A grim-looking Prime Minister Taro Aso conceded defeat just a couple hours after polls had closed, suggesting he would quit as president of the Liberal Democratic Party, which has ruled Japan for all but 11 months since 1955. "The results are very severe," Aso said. "There has been a deep dissatisfaction with our party."

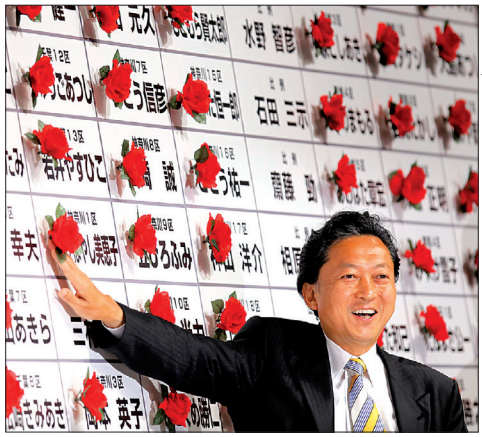
Unemployment and deflation — and an aging, shrinking population — have left families fearful of what the future holds. Fed up with the LDP, voters turned overwhelmingly to the opposition Democratic Party of Japan, which ran a populist-leaning platform with plans for cash handouts to families with children and expanding the social safety net.

"This is a victory for the people," said Yukio Hatoyama, leader of the Democrats and almost certainly Japan's next prime minister. "We want to build a new government that hears the voices of the nation."

Hatoyama and his party face a daunting array of challenges, both economic and demographic. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Financial woes

- Japan's economy has been hit hard amid the recession and falling demand for its exports. Unemployment has spiked to a record 5.7 per cent and younger workers have watched the promise of lifetime employment fade. Incomes are stagnant and families have cut spending.



ISSEI KATO/REUTERS, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Yukio Hatoyama, leader of Japan's main opposition Democratic Party of Japan, smiles with red rosettes attached on victorious candidates' names during the ballot counting yesterday.

Al-Qaida claims behind suicide attack that injured Saudi prince

JIDDAH Al-Qaida claimed responsibility yesterday for a suicide attack that injured a Saudi prince, saying the bomber, a wanted militant, arrived on a royal jet after convincing the ruling family he wanted to surrender.

Despite the attack on Deputy Interior Minister Prince Mohammed bin Nayef, his father and Interior Minister Prince Nayef said the kingdom would not change its open-door policy for militants to repent. Saudi Arabia has been praised for having one of the world's most well-developed terrorist rehabilitation programs.

Officials said the prince was wounded at his home in the city of Jiddah Thursday while receiving well-wishers for the Muslim holy month of Ramadan. If al-Qaida's claim proves to be true, it would be an embarrassment for the prince and his father, two of the kingdom's top anti-terror officials. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

POLITICS Former U.S. vice-president Dick Cheney says politics are driving the Justice Department's decision to investigate whether CIA interrogators abused terror suspects. Cheney called the techniques "good policy," saying he was comfortable in cases where interrogators went beyond what they were authorized to do.

RETAIL Swedish furniture chain Ikea has received online backlash after switching fonts from Futura to Verdana for its new catalog. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Arrest made after shooting
Police say they have arrested the man who called 9-1-1 after finding seven people slain and two others critically injured in a Georgia mobile home. But he has not been charged in the killings. Police say 22-year-old Guy Heinze Jr. was charged with drug possession and making false statements to police. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dalai Lama visits Taiwan

Spiritual leader's trip to meet typhoon victims 'purely humanitarian'

The Dalai Lama arrived in Taiwan yesterday to comfort victims of the island's worst storm in 50 years and vowed that his visit would be "purely humanitarian." Hours before government officials said they hoped he would stay clear of politics to avoid angering China.

Although the Tibetan spiritual leader has travelled to Taiwan before, many fear his arrival could hurt the island's improving relations with rival China — the signature issue in the 15-month-old administration of Taiwanese President Ma Ying-jeou. China has protested the visit.

The Dalai Lama, who clasped his hands and smiled as he greeted Buddhist followers and supporters at the Taoyuan International Airport near Taipei, said his visit would have no political overtone.

"I've visited different parts of the world, and I may have a political agenda there ... (but) my visit here is purely for humanitarian concerns," he said.

His arrival at a suburban Taipei train station was greeted by about 50 demonstrators waving Chinese flags and banners supporting unification with China and shouting "Go home Dalai Lama, don't come here." The demonstrators briefly scuffled with police.

"I'm here to oppose the Dalai Lama's visit," 62-year-old protester Feng Tsai-chiao said. "I want unification with China so I don't like him."

China has long vilified the Dalai Lama for what it says are his attempts to fight for independence in Tibet. Beijing has said it "resolutely opposes" the Taiwan visit "in whatever form and capacity."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GURINDER OSAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama, left, meets followers yesterday in a hotel lobby in New Delhi, India, as he prepared to leave for the airport to fly to Taiwan.

Rebels flee Myanmar after clashes with army

CHINA Hundreds of ethnic rebels have fled clashes in northeastern Myanmar, surrendering their weapons and uniforms to Chinese border police and crossing to safety after several days of skirmishes with Myanmar government troops.

Myanmar's military junta ended a news blackout about the clashes yesterday, saying three days of fighting had killed 26 government forces and at least eight rebels. It said the fighting had ended and "the region has now regained peace."

The United Nations and Chinese officials say up to 30,000 civilian refugees have streamed into China to escape the fighting, which broke out last week after hundreds of Myanmar soldiers moved into Kokang, a mostly ethnic Chinese region run by a local militia.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Strain

- The clashes have strained China's close relationship with Myanmar's military junta and come at a particularly sensitive time — ahead of Oct. 1 celebrations to mark 60 years of communist rule.

News in brief

U.K. The British government allowed the Lockerbie bomber to be covered by a prisoner transfer agreement with Libya because that was in the "overwhelming interests of the United Kingdom" as a major oil deal was being negotiated, a newspaper reported yesterday.
SEARCH Police expanded their search on Saturday to a property next to the home of a California couple charged with kidnapping a little girl 18 years ago as they looked for evidence linking them to other open cases in the area, including the unsolved murders of prostitutes.
BLAST Pakistani police say an explosion has set several NATO fuel tankers on fire at a backed-up Afghan border crossing. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Wounded journalist gets treatment

CBS Radio News correspondent Cami McCormick, who was wounded in eastern Afghanistan on Friday, was flown to a U.S. military hospital in Germany yesterday for additional medical treatment, the military and her employer said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Former Israeli PM indicted on corruption charges

JERUSALEM Israeli authorities indicted former Prime Minister Ehud Olmert on corruption charges yesterday, the first criminal indictment ever filed against a current or past Israeli prime minister.

Olmert, who stepped down earlier this year over the corruption issue, is accused of illegally accepting funds from an American backer, double-billing for trips abroad and concealing funds from a government watchdog. He faces charges that include fraud and breach of trust.

The charges filed in court first surfaced when Olmert was still prime minister, although Olmert allegedly committed the offences while serving as mayor of Jerusalem and later as a Cabinet minister, before being elected prime minister in 2006.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Denial

- Ehud Olmert, who denies any wrongdoing, issued a statement through a spokesman saying he was confident his name would be cleared.

MIKE MEADOWS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A wildfire behind a home in La Canada Flintridge, Calif., Saturday.

Wildfire puts homes at risk

A growing wildfire in the mountains above Los Angeles surged north yesterday, forcing more evacuations and threatening some 10,000 homes.

Residents of the small town of Acton were urged to evacuate as the four-day-old blaze headed into the Antelope Valley. The fire spread in all directions, leaving three people burned, destroying at least three homes and forcing thousands to flee.

A slight drop in temperatures and an influx of fire crews from around the state were expected to bring some relief yesterday. Mandatory evacuations were in effect for several Los Angeles-area communities.

The fire, which broke out Wednesday , was the largest and most dangerous of several around southern and central California and in Yosemite park. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

KENNEDY Delivering an emotional, simple eulogy for Edward M. Kennedy on Saturday, U.S. President Barack Obama dubbed the former senator as "the greatest legislator of our time." The speech for Kennedy capped a two-hour Roman Catholic funeral Mass in Boston. Kennedy died Tuesday at 77 after battling brain cancer. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Bosnia	13.9¢	Peru	1.9¢
Brazil	2.9¢	Poland	2.9¢
Canada	2.9¢	Romania	1.9¢
Colombia	2.5¢	Russia	from 1.5¢
Croatia	2.5¢	Saudi Arabia	12.9¢
Dominican Rep.	3.9¢	Serbia	6.5¢
Egypt	11.9¢	Syria	17.9¢
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Comment

Earning brownie points

HineSight

Anne Hines

metronews.ca/hinesight

Today I came face to face with the truth about my own maturity level. In some 30 years of being an adult, the only thing I've grown out of is my jeans.

This morning, my sister Keltie called. Our conversation went something like this:

Keltie: I've been thinking about the big family occasion coming up and ...

Me: Me! Me! I'll do everything! I'll cook! I'll clean! I'll get the gift and the card and the cake and my kids will hand-sew a banner and write a commemorative poem and ...

Keltie: What can I do to help?

Me: You can remind me what we're celebrating.

Keltie: Anne, are you sure you want to do all this?

Me: Would I offer if I didn't want to?

This is a ridiculous question. Of course I would. The fact is, though, there is one thing hosting this gathering that will bring me what I can't get anywhere else. Not quality time with my family. I'm talking about brownie points.

Loosely defined, in any group of siblings brownie points means, "Mom always liked me best but just to make sure, look, I've bought her a car." To acquire brownie points you simply need to one-up your brothers and sisters in any small way. A sample scale is as follows:

SunnySide

Calling Mom even when you don't need her to babysit = four points.

Helping Dad organize the basement = six points (Add an additional two points for not saying, "Do you really need to keep your bowling score cards from 1948?")

Acting more than three times.) straight in front of great aunt Elsie = 1,200 points.

Producing grandchildren = 200 million billion points.

Years ago, I read a book entitled, Siblings Without Rivalry. Frankly, they might as well have called it Living Without Breathing. In most families, vying for parental approval seems to be the norm. I asked a family psychology expert why this is.

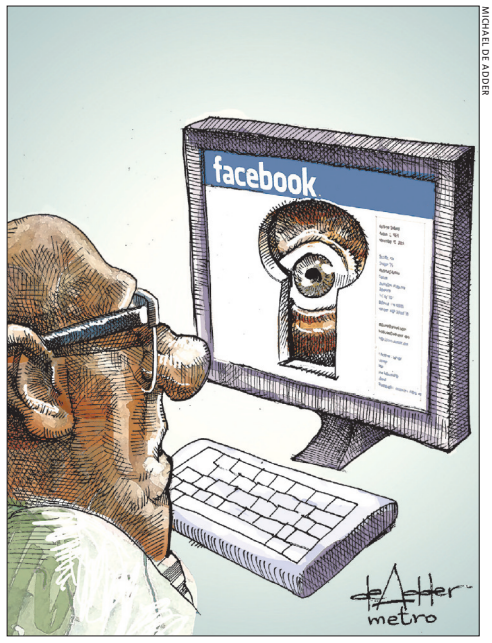
Learned doctor: In the early history of humankind, a child's need to establish their superior status in the affections of parents stemmed from his/her instinct to secure protection from predators.

Me: And in modern times?

Learned doctor: Now we're just brats.

I myself do not approve of petty competition between brothers and sisters. Unless, of course, I'm winning. But there's a bigger problem with brownie points. At the end of the day I have a sneaking suspicion Mom loves us all the same.

Anne Hines is an author and humour writer. She has written three novels and one collection of nonfiction humour.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

Worth mentioning

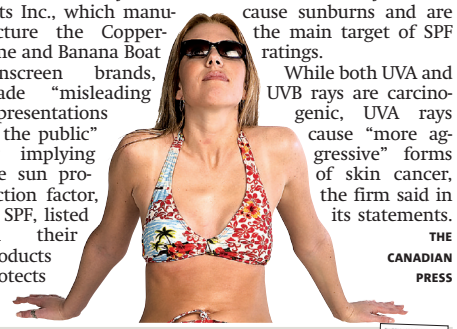
Class-action lawsuit filed against sunscreen makers

A Toronto law firm is moving forward with a proposed class-action lawsuit against the makers of two major brands of sunscreen in Canada, alleging they deceived customers about the strength of their products.

Jurovieskey and Ricci LLP said in two statements of claim that Schering-Plough Canada and Playtex Products Inc., which manufacture the Coppertone and Banana Boat sunscreen brands, made "misleading representations to the public" by implying the sun protection factor, or SPF, listed on their products protects equally against all types of the sun's harmful ultraviolet rays.

In the amended statements of claim filed in February 2009 with the Ontario Superior Court of Justice, the firm said the companies failed to distinguish between UVA rays, which damage the DNA in skin cells, and UVB rays, which cause sunburns and are the main target of SPF ratings.

While both UVA and UVB rays are carcinogenic, UVA rays cause "more aggressive" forms of skin cancer, the firm said in its statements.



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Views

Staying in touch can lead to safety concerns

InTransit

Ed Drass

metronews.ca/intransit

Cellphones can be handy. And they're just about everywhere. The problem is yakking away in public; we lose our attention on etiquette and particularly safety — whether behind the wheel or walking across the street.

For example, streetcar users already watch for traffic when boarding and exiting. Seeing a motorist sail past the open doors while engaged in cellular conversation seems extra infuriating.

The province is banning driving while holding a phone — but many people are sure to continue the practice.

And yet if someone happens to be piloting a truck — or a bus — the potential for misfortune can be great.

Toronto transit drivers are respected throughout the industry for their safety record, so I don't get why even one would casually use a cellphone while driving. Yes, sometimes an emergency call may come when they're behind the wheel. But for the sake of riders who deserve to be transported safely — please stop the vehicle.

So, why doesn't the TTC already enforce a zero-tolerance policy on phones? One complication is that dispatch supervisors stay in contact with drivers via on-board telephones.

It's also possible that chatting discreetly on a hands-free device may be no more distracting for an experienced bus operator than answering a lost rider's questions. But even the act of wearing an ear bud is unprofessional and indicates deep disrespect for the travelling public.

Quick tip

• If you lodge an official complaint about a GTA transit driver using a phone while on duty, please let me know at transit@eddrass.com. TTC and GO Transit contact details are on the "Links" page at eddrass.com. And for those riders who use phones while in transit, note that others don't need to hear your conversation.

Earlier this year in Boston a serious crash occurred between two light rail trains, and the driver admitted to texting at the time. Transit employees there are now forbidden to carry a mobile device while in uniform.

So, should you complain if your driver appears to be on the phone — or get off and take the next vehicle?

Many GTA transit users have repeatedly expressed to me their lack of faith in the official complaints process, saying reports are not acted upon. Conversely, TTC employees say managers are too eager to believe rider claims — including false ones. I feel the reality is midway between these extremes.

Toronto-based transport writer Ed Drass covers transit issues every Monday; transit@eddrass.com.

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Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number – street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

Union reaches deal with Air Canada Jazz
The Canadian Auto Workers union representing 1,100 customer service agents and airport services employees at Air Canada Jazz said it has reached a tentative settlement for a new three-year contract at the regional airline. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business

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(Friday's close)	(Friday's close)	(Friday's close)	(Friday's close)

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Recession over, experts say

Canada's version of the Great Global Recession may have seemed brutish, but — if economists are right about new output numbers being released today — it will also have turned out to be short and relatively mild.

With gross domestic product data released for June and the second quarter, the consensus of economists is the economy continued to contract sharply for the third straight three-month period. But it will also show the recession, at least as it is technically defined in terms of gross domestic product, likely ended in June.

The consensus is the official report today will show that growth returned to the economy for the first time in 10 months in June — albeit minuscule growth of 0.2 per cent.

If true, and barring an unexpected reversal, Canada will have gotten off relatively easy, economists say.

"We have lost a lot of jobs, but in general, Canada has come out fairly well, fairly unscathed," said economist Pedro Antunes of the Conference Board, an Ottawa-based economic think-tank.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Model for rest of the world?

•Canada's financial system and its response to the recession should serve as models for the rest of the world, Finance Minister Jim Flaherty said, offering a glowing assessment of his government's handling of the global crisis.

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Business in brief

AUTOS A top Ford executive expects industrywide U.S. auto sales to rise for the first time in more than two years this month, thanks largely to the government's Cash for Clunkers program. Sales may have risen as high as 13 million units during August, Mark Fields, Ford's president of the Americas, said Friday.

PHONES BlackBerry maker Research In Motion's acquisition of Torch Mobile is expected to help it develop a new browser to better compete with the iPhone and others, analysts say. The BlackBerry's browser is considered weaker and slower compared with the experience on Apple's touchscreen phone.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Air Canada shifts focus to Europe

ROUTES Air Canada says it is looking to strengthen its European service with the addition of new routes to Athens and Barcelona next summer as it slightly shifts its focus from its Canadian base. Non-stop service from Montreal and Toronto will run between June 3 and Oct. 18.

Ben Smith, the airline's chief commercial officer, said the additions mark a departure from the past five or six years when Air Canada focused heavily on the Canadian market, which benefited from the strength of the economy, especially in Alberta.

"We've not abandoning anything domestically, we're going to be more focused on international and that's something new for us," he said.

Air Canada has a strong international brand, unused route rights, expertise flying internationally and a good location to funnel traffic from the United States, Smith added.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cigars Just not Cuban

FRANKLIN REYES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A woman takes a picture of a man smoking a Cohiba cigar at a cigar store in Old Havana. Washington's 47-year-old trade embargo has kept Cuban products out of the U.S., but not outside companies from using the island's brand names. Cohiba cigars made by Virginia-based General Cigar Inc. have been sold in the U.S. since 1997. In Cuba, Cohiba was founded in 1966 to make cigars for Fidel Castro and visiting dignitaries, but today is the flagship of Cuba's premium brands.

TSX gains may be harder to come by

MARKETS The Toronto stock market could still head higher this week following a string of better than expected bank earnings and higher oil prices.

But as the rally on the TSX approaches the end of its sixth month with the main index up about 45 per cent, investors are looking for good reasons to send it up even higher.

September has a brutal reputation for sharp declines and market tone could be shaped by August unemployment data coming in at the end of the week. The Toronto market drifted to a flat close Friday, but up for the week in an advance largely fired by the financial sector.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Big banks earn $500M more than year ago

BLAME Banks have played the unenviable role of culprit in the current global recession, taking a fair share of the blame for the subprime mortgage crisis in the U.S. and the financial meltdown that produced billions of dollars in losses. But you wouldn't know it in Canada.

Canada's so-called Big Five banks earned a combined total of $4.4 billion in third-quarter profits, up by $500 million from $3.9 billion a year earlier.

With the exception of Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, all the major banks roundly beat analyst expectations. Analysts had expected significant loan losses due in large part to the declining value of U.S. commercial real estate.

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1,000 tonnes of landfill from replaced cellphones

About 9.3 million cellphones are replaced in Canada every year, which equates to around 1,000 tonnes of landfill (and a bunch of nasty chemicals), according to Change The World for Ten Bucks: 50 Ways To Make A Difference. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Going Green

Saving time and space

U.S.-based Zigo Inc. says its Zigo Leader can convert from a stand-alone bicycle to one with front-attached kid trailer, left, to a stroller in less than a minute. But saving time and space doesn't come cheap. The mom- or dad-powered system costs $1,349 US. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

100 vow to remain car-free after challenge

CHALLENGE More than 250 city slickers in Canada, the U.S. and London, England, gave up their cars for a month, choosing instead to walk, bike, take public transit or use car-sharing service Zipcar in Zipcar's 2009 Low-Car Diet challenge that ended Aug. 15. And 100 plan to stay that way after this year's annual program, up from 83 participants who made that commitment after last year's Low-Car Diet.

Key findings from this year's program show respondents spent 67 per cent less on vehicle-related costs, took 74 per cent fewer trips by car, and doubled their public transit ridership. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Strike a balance

EarthTones

We think environmental responsibility starts when activism meets pragmatism. In our youth, one member of this writing team was an industry-hating, tree-hugging environmentalist (the other was a muscle car driving, resource guzzling, beer-slogan T-shirt wearing Alex P. Keaton wannabe).

Upon aging, however, we realize that, as appealing as it sometime sounds, we can't just live in a cave and eat nuts and berries. Modern life requires stuff. Stuff must be made of raw material that must be generated. We need energy and equipment to make it into the stuff we want, and that requires industry. Industry provides jobs, and is the backbone of communities. Therefore, polluting industries cannot just be closed or fined out of existence. We can only move forward by partnering with these industries and helping them to become environmental responsible and sustainable.

The mining industry is a case in point. Traditionally a very important part of Canada's resource-based economy, it has historically been very bad for the environment. Mines produce a large amount of waste and leachate from this waste is often highly acidic and presents an environmental hazard. But we can't just stop mining. For the sake of the economy, of people and communities that depend on mining, and because we need the raw materials to make stuff, we will need to go on extracting materials from the earth.

Natural Resources Canada is trying to strike a balance between environmental and industrial interests with its Green Mining Initiative (GMI). The GMI is intended as a holistic approach that addresses all mining issues. Its themes are footprint reduction, innovation in mine waste management, ecosystem risk management, and mine closure and rehabilitation. Footprint reduction means "low-impact" mining — extracting metals more efficiently and leaving more of what we don't need in the ground to generate less waste. Innovation in mine waste management is, of course, the development of new technologies to deal with mine waste. Ecosystem risk management involves understanding how contaminants from mines can affect the environment and therefore knowing what needs to be controlled. Mine closure and rehabilitation involves dealing with the 10,000 orphaned or abandoned mines that are the legacy of Canada's mining traditions.

We will watch with interest for the results of the GMI.

If mining can be made environmentally benign, there is hope for us all.

Sophia Dore is an environmental scientist with Conestoga-Rovers & Associates. Andrew Laursen is an assistant professor at Ryerson University; earthtones.metro@gmail.com.

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ADVANCING GENERICS

Raikkonen regains F1 form
Kimi Raikkonen held off Force India driver Giancarlo Fisichella to win Formula One's Belgian Grand Prix, the Ferrari driver's fourth triumph at the track in the past five years. The former champion, who started sixth yesterday, overtook pole sitter Fisichella after the safety car came in following accidents on the opening lap. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports

More to come: Bolt

Fresh from setting a pair of world records, Usain Bolt, left, is ready to go faster. The Jamaican sprinter said yesterday that by analyzing his recent races, he will be able to improve on his record times of 9.58 seconds in the 100 metres and 19.19 in the 200.
METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: CHRIS.CLEMENTS@METRONEWS.CA

PGA Slocum wins Barclays

RICH SCHULTZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Heath Slocum won the opening event of golf's playoffs, The Barclays, yesterday by sinking a 20-foot par putt on the final hole for a one-shot victory over Steve Stricker. Slocum finished the tournament at 9-under. Mike Weir of Bright's Grove, Ont., shot 71 to finish tied for 33rd.

Membership has privileges

Toronto FC wants suggestions for those who buy into team

It's Called Football

Ben Rycroft

metronews.ca/itscalledfootball

Let's have some fun with this: Toronto FC director of business operations Paul Beirne posed the question to some of the TFC supporters groups last week — if the club had a membership, what should it include and how much should it cost?

TFC is looking at it in terms of the European model, which, in some cases, allows members to vote out presidents, coaches and have a say on the operations of the team.

The cynics, as they often do in this town, have jumped all over the quasi-proposal "as just another way for MLSE to get its money grubbing hands on our hard earned dollars." It's an argument that is as accurate as it is tired and worn out. MLSE is a business. It aims to make money. Get over it.

I'm by no means in favour of the blind-support movement, but the opportunity to get creative with this open-ended proposal is too tempting to pass up. Ask for anything? OK, I will.

"How about Carl Robinson cooking you breakfast? Or maybe Danny Dichio looks after your Grandma and has a nice cup of tea with her."

Some things I'd like to see included in the Toronto FC membership:

One day a year, a Toronto FC player comes to your house to help out. Chad Barrett could cut your lawn. How about Carl Robinson cooking you breakfast? Or maybe Danny Dichio looks after your Grandma and has a nice cup of tea with her.

Maybe you're thinking, "I don't care how hard a worker Chad Barrett is. I don't need him tending to my lawn. I want the team to win."

So how about in years the team doesn't make the playoffs, the members get to choose someone from the MLSE brass to go in a carnival dunk tank? Someone like Richard Peddie, for example.

In the same spirit, how about an annual Survivor contest? Fans could choose three players deemed to be the most overpaid/rated/played and send them off to an island. The survivor comes back next season to play with the team. This would take that whole competing-for-positions thing that coach Chris Cummins likes to another level.

Annual TFC WAG (wives and girlfriends) calendars; control of supporters' section seating; and a lower, flat rate on beer would all be nice, too.

MLSE can dress it up all it wants, but at the end of the day the best way to engage soccer fans isn't through gimmicks like a membership. The best way to engage soccer fans is through open, transparent dealings — something a lot of supporters have been clamouring for lately.

Watch Ben Rycroft on the It's Called Football show every Monday at metronews.ca; ben.rycroft@metronews.ca

Sports in brief

TENNIS U.S. Open players and their entourages are being told to be careful about what they post on their Twitter accounts. The message from the Tennis Integrity Unit points out that Twitter messages could violate the sport's anti-corruption rules. Tweeting is not allowed on court during matches.

GOLF Byeong Hun-An, a 17-year-old born in South Korea, yesterday became the youngest champion of the U.S. Amateur. It's the second straight year the winner has been the youngest in the history of the event, which has been around since 1895 and played 109 times.

NASCAR Carl Edwards won the NAPA Auto Parts 200 in Montreal, while local favourites Andrew Ranger and Jacques Villeneuve finished third and fourth at the NASCAR Nationwide event yesterday at Circuit Gilles Villeneuve.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Men's eight win world silver

ROWING Canada's men's eight captured silver yesterday at the world rowing championships, the lone highlight in a largely disappointing day for Canadian crews.

Aided by a strong tailwind at Poland's Malta Lake, the Canadians crossed the line in five minutes 27.15 seconds, well back of the gold medal winners from Germany (5:24.13). The Netherlands placed third in 5:28.32.

Canada coxswain Mark Laidlaw said he expected the race to be challenging.

"I was very aware of Germany during the race, but I knew that the Dutch were making a push and Poland had made an impressive charge," said Laidlaw.

The team consists of Laidlaw, Derek O'Farrell of Unionville, Ont., James Dunaway of Duncan, B.C., Malcolm Howard of Victoria, B.C., Andrew Byrnes of Toronto, Doug Csima of Oakville, Gabe Bergen of 100 Mile House, B.C., and Rob Gibson of Kingston, Ont., and VanKnotsenburg of Beamsville, Ont.

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Bees fill in for Boras

Baseball agent Scott Boras always creates a buzz. A swarm of bees invaded his dugout-level suite at Angel Stadium yesterday, though Boras didn't appear to be at the game between Los Angeles and the Oakland Athletics. The bees occupied his front-row seats directly behind home plate for the first two innings. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Blue Jays **Play at the plate**

WINSLOW TOWNSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Boston's J.D. Drew slides home safely as Toronto catcher Rod Barajas fields a throw to home yesterday at Fenway Park in Boston. The Red Sox beat the Blue Jays 7-0 in the afternoon affair.

Birdman makes waves

DANIEL SQUIZZATO
for Metro Toronto

During his illustrious career, skateboarding legend Tony (Birdman) Hawk has reached some unprecedented heights.

But as he showed during a weekend visit to the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto, the father of four can still be down-to-Earth.

"I just like the spectacle of (the CNE)," said Hawk, 41. "My kid version would just love all the rides."

Hawk was in town to provide some celebrity judging for the CNE's newest attraction, the FlowRider — an artificial wave machine that replicates the experience of surfboarding.

"I could really see flowriding becoming popular," said Hawk. "It's like surfing, but it allows you to do it anywhere without worrying about the weather, the waves or the coast."

Hawk proved the point by hopping onto a stand-up board and carving a few waves himself on a chilly afternoon in downtown Toronto.

Then it was time for an impromptu autograph session with the spectators — some with strands of grey hair, others too young to have ever stood on a skateboard, all clamouring for Hawk's attention.

Tony Hawk

"It's an honour that (people) recognize you for what you do, and for doing something that's perceived as obscure, like skateboarding," said Hawk. "People have respect for it, and they want to come out and see you, even if they're not skaters themselves."

Indeed, Hawk is one of the few skateboarders who has transcended the sport and become a global icon. He's appeared on television, in movies and has inspired a line of video games, including an upcoming title featuring a skateboard-shaped controller.

But has mainstream attention and popularity changed the once-underground sport?

"Skateboarding continues to evolve," said Hawk. "There's still that element of hardcore skating and riding the forbidden rails ... but you also have the option to make it a full-blown career and become a superstar. That wasn't even an option or dream when I started."

Based on the number of smiling youngsters walking away from the FlowRider, showing off their freshly-autographed posters and skateboards, that dream appears to be alive and well.

Sports in brief

SOCCER Emmanuel Adebayor scored his third goal in as many Premier League matches to give Manchester City a 1-0 win at Portsmouth yesterday, maintaining the club's perfect start to the season. Also yesterday, Everton rallied to beat Wigan 2-1 as Leighton Baines converted a 90th-minute penalty against his former club. In yesterday's late match, Aston Villa bested Fulham 2-0.

BASEBALL Zack Greinke pitched a one-hitter, allowing only a second-inning single by Kenji Johjima, and the Kansas City Royals beat the Seattle Mariners 3-0 yesterday. Greinke (13-8) retired the final 22 batters after Johjima's two-out single up the middle.

BASEBALL California fell behind early, but rallied to beat Taoyuan, Taiwan, 6-3 yesterday to win the Little League World Series. With the win, the United States now has five straight titles.

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York express bus lane delayed
A new express lane for buses en route to York University, originally scheduled to be open at the start of the 2009-10 academic year, is now expected to be ready by November at the earliest. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

New alarm system at Carleton

Last week, Carleton University launched its new Emergency Notification System, which it calls the most comprehensive of its kind on a university campus in the country. The system can issue a PC desktop alert delivering an on-screen message as it locks thousands of on-campus computers, mass e-mail notifications, and text messages. Carleton recently settled a lawsuit with a student assaulted on campus two years ago who accused the school of failing to provide adequate safety measures. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

The double standard

Studies show women thriving in new roles and men aren't adapting

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

As equality in the workplace becomes less elusive for women, inequalities in home life still threaten to hold them back.

Reports from Statistics Canada show that while men are doing more household chores and women are doing more paid work, men still spend only 1.4 hours per day on housework compared to the 2.4 hours on average done by women.

The result is that while women have continued to break down barriers in the workplace, they still face the challenge of having to do more work at home than men as well as a double-standard of being seen as innately overstretched by their responsibilities.

When Ontario Superior Court judge Douglas Cunningham told a courtroom in August that he felt Ontario MPP Lisa MacLeod's testimony in the corruption trial of Ottawa mayor Larry O'Brien was unreliable because she had "a number of rather significant things going on in her life," including taking care of her kids, many in the public and the media took that to mean he didn't think a busy woman could give reliable testimony.

Carissa Reiniger, president of Women Entrepreneurs of Canada, says while the context of the judge's comments is still up to debate, the perception of working women as less competent at juggling complex lives than men is a common one that boils down mostly to changing gender roles, primarily being changed by women.

"If you look at what's happened in the last 60 years, women have put a lot of time and effort into adjusting their role, to entrench themselves into what have traditionally been masculine roles but often they still have to take care of the family," Reiniger said.

Reiniger says most of the tension comes from the fact that while women have made inroads into the previously male-dominated world of business, men have not made as big of an encroachment into traditionally female roles.

> **"Unfortunately for a long time the stereotype has been that you've got to be a horrible person as a woman to succeed like a man. That's not true."**
> Women Entrepreneurs of Canada President Carissa Reiniger

"Many men are quite supportive of women in the workforce but they generally have not, with the same level of tenacity, said 'I want to be a part of the home life.' They've been bombarded by the shift in women's roles but their own role hasn't shifted much," Reiniger said.

Reiniger hopes attitudes will change as people realize that business and familial traits are not gender related at all.

"It's not a sob story to say that women do often have to make a tough choice between working hard and trying to raise a family, though many do so extremely effectively. Unfortunately for a long time the stereotype has been that you've got to be a horrible person as a woman to succeed like a man. That's not true," Reiniger said.

Workology in brief

BAD SUMMER FOR SAVING UP
This summer has been the worst summer-student hiring season in years with a record 201,000 young Canadians currently out of work. That accounts for one-in-five members of the workforce between the ages of 18 and 24. This is partly due to the global economic downturn, which hit sectors typically hiring youth such as tourism, hospitality and construction, but it's also due to deficit-stricken governments cutting or eliminating funding to programs like B.C.'s Student Summer Works program, which matched an employer's contribution to a student's pay. According to the United Nations, this is not a problem confined to Canada; it's a global epidemic. While young people make up approximately 25 per cent of the world's working population, they account for 40 per cent of the unemployed.

NO ATLANTIC UNDERGRADS
According to Statistics Canada, fewer students are enrolling in undergraduate programs in Canada's Atlantic provinces, with the number of full-time students declining in all four provinces in 2007 and 2008. This is said to be a result of increasing numbers of high school dropouts. The Nova Scotia Department of Education estimates that there will be a 30 per cent drop in high school graduates over the next decade, while that numbers is estimated to be about 20 per cent in New Brunswick. As a result, Atlantic universities are increasing their out-of-province recruitment efforts. HEATHER BUCHAN/ FOR METRO CANADA

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Provincial funding cuts affect uAlberta disability help centre

When the Alberta government decided last December not to renew an annual $2.5-million provincewide grant for exam accommodations, the University of Alberta's student disability help centre lost nearly a fifth of its funding. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology in **brief**

FREE SCHOOL A new university billed as the "first non-profit, tuition-free online university" kicks off next month with 178 students between the ages of 16 and 61 from 49 countries. Called "University of the People," the online institution says it is dedicated to the global advancement and democratization of higher education. Students will study business administration and computer science in virtual communities using free online materials and social-networking tools. Although the fees are waived at the moment, an education through the university could cost between $400 and $4,000 in the future. The founder, Shai Reshef, an Israeli entrepreneur, does expect a high dropout rate.

NUTRITION Increasingly, Canadian employers are realizing that good employee nutrition creates better job productivity and lowers overall costs. According to a recent survey by Buffett and Co. Wellness Consultants, 23.5 per cent — that's nearly one-quarter — of Canadian employers now offer healthy choices in corporate cafeterias in an effort to help employees stay health and remain more alert on the job. Having employees with health problems like heart disease and diabetes impacts a company's drug costs and long-term disability claims.

HEATHER BUCHAN/ FOR METRO CANADA

Tracking monsters in the world of man

OddJobs

Diane Peters

Metronews.ca/oddjobs

Cryptozoologist John Kirk believes there are many undiscovered wildlife in the forests and lakes of B.C.

Throughout his career, John Kirk has made a living as a journalist and working for the government.

His other occupation doesn't make him much money — in fact it costs him — but he still can't give up the hunt for undiscovered wildlife.

It all began when Kirk first emigrated from Hong Kong in 1987. As a new resident to Canada, he went in a tour of B.C. He was passing by Sproat Lake on the way to Nanaimo when he saw two humps coming out of the water.

A month later, he saw a massive reptile head in Okanagan Lake. It seemed it was Ogopogo, the lake's famous, and yet to be proven, sea monster.

Kirk took a job in Ontario, but visited B.C. again a year later, hoping for another glimpse of these rare animals. In 1989, he moved to the city of Richmond in the province.

"I wanted to investigate this mystery, so I moved out there. Twenty-two years later, the mystery still hasn't been solved." While Kirk experienced 11 sightings on B.C. waters over a two-year period, he hasn't seen anything since 1990.

Kirk soon met up with others in the area who were interested in cryptozoology too. While some were laymen, the British Columbia Scientific Cryptozoology Club also included university professors.

The club organizes outings. Sometimes they take boats onto B.C. lakes with equipment to try to see and document creatures.

As well, there have been numerous Sasquatch sightings in B.C. forests, so Kirk and others look for these creatures on days off too. They put out cameras and do night outings with infrared cameras.

It's a time consuming and often expensive passion. Kirk has seen it break up families. Not him though: He met his wife at a Sasquatch conference.

Kirk's second career has taken him all over the world: He's looked for living dinosaurs in Africa and visited Loch Ness in Scotland several times.

When he's not out on the bush or on a lake, he's writing up the association's newsletter and looking at evidence of sightings (his colleagues do the same and they talk later to determine if photos or videos have been faked, or if there's really something there).

It's a sometimes frustrating passion. "Some people are nuts about this," says Kirk, and become obsessive and competitive. And the academic mainstream looks down on professors who dabble in the field.

But the existence of the gorilla was only confirmed in 1902. The Okapi in 1912. Creatures are being discovered all the time. In the thick forests and deep lakes of B.C., Kirk thinks is a wealth of rare animals that inevitably will be formally discovered.

The **Lowdown**

Job title: Cryptozoologist
Salary: $0; not much from sales of his book In the Domain of the Lake Monsters
Education/training: You need to brush up on your zoology
Best Part of the Job: "The hunt. Getting out there and doing it. And at the end of the day, we always go for a few pints."
Worst Part of the Job: "No money."

Diane Peters once hawked magic pens at the Canadian National Exhibition. She's now a writer and part-time journalism instructor.

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McMaster support staff may strike this week
Support workers at McMaster University will be in a position to strike on Sept. 4. The university has requested the Ontario labour ministry enforce a supervised vote of its final offer to the employees' union, which, if sanctioned, would take place Wednesday or Thursday. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Online jobs offer wide variety

From rating audio clips to starting up a business, web-based jobs gaining steam

Need a job but don't want to leave the comfort of your home?

Coin a phrase, rate the quality of an audio clip, get paid for doing online surveys, judge the sentiment of Twitter posts or just sell T-shirts.

There's no need to see the boss with websites that want you to sell a host of products, perform tasks or help you set up your own online business.

Take CoinThat Phrase.com, which gives folks the chance to put some coin in their jeans by putting their favourite, original sayings and slogans on coffee mugs, T-shirts or even dog tags.

"Ask not what tired phrases to say, but what new phrases you can coin," says the U.S.-based website.

Amazon's Mechanical Turk lets people select thousands of tasks that computers are unable to do and work whenever it's convenient. It pairs "Requesters," those who want the work done and are willing to pay for it, with "Workers," those willing to do the work for a fee. Amazon gets a slice as well.

The work includes such things as rating the sentiment of Twitter posts, looking at the quality of an image chosen to represent a TV show, clicking on search results that are relevant for search terms — all work apparently best done by human eyes and brains.

Sound great? Well, before you tell your boss to take a hike and decide working in your pyjamas is the way to go, the experts offer a word of caution.

Prof. Tim Richardson of the University of Toronto says it's not as easy as it appears to start an online business. And lots of these online schemes at best offer a way to make a few bucks and aren't considered "real jobs."

"Great ideas have no value. What you need is the money to go with them."
U of T Professor Tim Richardson on the caveats of upstart online businesses

"Great ideas have no value. What you need is the money to go with them," he said. "I could come up with edible baseball caps, right? But if you don't have anybody that's interested in buying that, then it's of no consequence."

Online businesses are perhaps a little more traditional in their approach and they have appeal for those with less time for a regular job. Ottawa-based Shopify.com says students are ideal candidates to start online businesses.

They must first find a product they want to sell, line up a supplier and then hand it off to Shopify to set up their online business for a monthly fee.

"You can still focus on your studies and everything else and basically just earn a recurring income," said Dimitri Oniatsuk, the firm's vice-president of marketing.

It can require as little time as two to three hours a week, if the product is appealing, he said, citing students selling T-shirts.

"They have their finger on the pulse of what's cool."

And it needn't be small potatoes. He says one of their student business operators has monthly revenues (not profits) of around $10,000.

Richardson, with the Division of Management at the university's Scarborough campus, agrees online businesses are well-suited to students and stay-at-home moms.

He also suggests that anyone who does want to start an online business, as opposed to doing paid online work, should find a theme.

That's what Calgary mom Britt Raposo has done. She owns and maintains 55 websites all geared toward mothers and mothers who stay at home and have businesses.

She says she never wanted to work for someone else.

"When I started out I was told by several people, of course not my husband who is all for it, to get a 'real' job," said Raposo, who operates the resource website CanadianMoms Online.com, among others.

Her work accommodates taking care of her young children and there's really only one downside.

"I don't have a boss if something goes wrong. I have to fix it."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Preston pulls out of women's conference

Kelly Preston is pulling out of the annual Women's Conference, where she was to break her silence about the death of her teenage son with John Travolta. The actress said in a statement Friday that she is "still deeply in the process of healing, and it's just too soon." POPEATER.COM

Entertainment

Blunt to wed

Emily Blunt and John Krasinski are set to wed. The British actress, 26, and The Office star, 29, have been dating since November — following her split from crooner Michael Bublé. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Jackson death report prompts investigation

PEOPLE California Attorney General Jerry Brown is opening an independent investigation of several doctors whose names have come up in connection with the probe into pop star Michael Jackson's death.

Brown said in a statement that his investigation comes at the request of the Los Angeles Police Department.

The statement said that on Aug. 20 police met with representatives of the attorney general's Bureau of Narcotice Enforcement and the Drug Enforcement Administration to discuss information uncovered in the Jackson death investigation. Bureau agents now plan to review relevant records and documents.

The attorney general said the investigation is in its earliest stages and no conclusions can be drawn.

The statement did not identify the doctors. Jackson's death was a homicide caused primarily by the powerful anesthetic propofol and another sedative, the coroner announced in a highly anticipated ruling that increases the likelihood of criminal charges against the star's doctor. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cranberries reunited

Dolores O'Riordan says group reunion feels like 'the right thing'

Dolores O'Riordan was weeks away from releasing her second solo album, No Baggage, and going on tour when she dropped an unexpected bombshell on her fans.

The tour dates had been cancelled because her band, the Cranberries, had decided to reunite after an almost six-year hiatus.

In an interview with The Canadian Press, O'Riordan said it was a one-off get together with her bandmates that convinced them to mount a comeback, which was ultimately made possible because of the peace she achieved through her relocation to cottage country in Ontario, where she escaped to raise her family and avoid becoming a "has-been dead rock star."

Irish-born O'Riordan, 37, was 18 when the Cranberries formed in 1990, and the next 13 years were a whirlwind of touring and releasing albums, which produced a number of hits including Dreams, Linger, Ode To My Family, Zombie, Salvation, Ridiculous Thoughts and Free To Decide.

But the stresses of fame fissured the band in 2003, and in O'Riordan's case, she was emotionally falling apart.

"I was so young when I got so famous and then I kind of put up a wall around myself, I didn't really want to show people any fragilities or fears, I was trying to be this tough person that I felt was expected of me," she said.

"It's important to take time off because it's a long journey this life, and I want to be singing in 30 years time. You see a lot of artists who get caught up in the here and now, and they just burn themselves out, and I kind of did that myself with my third album."

"But I realized I didn't want to die, I wanted to live a long life and sing for a long time and have kids and have a reality outside of just being some has-been celebrity or has-been dead rock star."

O'Riordan sought solace in anonymity, which she found in the middle of the woods in Ontario, where she has a home with her Canadian husband, Don Burton, their two children and a child from Burton's previous relationship.

"What's amazing is — I actually have problems getting it into my head — Canada is so big, right? And Ireland's small you know; you drive from coast to coast in three hours. You can really get lost here, and I like that," she said.

"For an artist or an entertainer it's the ultimate when you can go to the forest when you're done your work and escape."

DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cranberries frontwoman Dolores O'Riordan says the band is reuniting after almost six years.

"It's kind of cosmic too, right, that we were reuniting. I didn't think about it, but these coincidences to me signify you're doing the right thing."
Dolores O'Riordan

The Cranberries' North American reunion tour is tentatively scheduled to begin sometime in November and the first show is expected to be in Toronto.

"I'm half a Canuck, I've spent half my life here now," O'Riordan joked.

The band also hopes to write new songs and put out another album, and given that next year will mark the 20th anniversary of the Cranberries forming, the timing feels right, O'Riordan said.

"It's kind of cosmic too, right, that we were reuniting. I didn't think about it, but these coincidences to me signify you're doing the right thing," she said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Stars attend Pompeo baby shower

Mom-to-be Ellen Pompeo was joined by 25 friends, including Kate Walsh, Sandra Oh and Rebecca Gayheart, for a baby shower held Saturday afternoon at Katherine Heigl's home in the Los Feliz section of Los Angeles. PEOPLE.COM

Matisyahu sees the Light

Brooklyn reggae artist creates the most diverse album of his career

BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI
for Metro Canada

When Matisyahu, an Orthodox Jew from Brooklyn, became a reggae sensation seemingly overnight, you couldn't help but wonder if this was just a strange gimmick. After all it's not everyday you see a bearded, kippah-wearing father of two jamming out like he's Bob Marley. But, three years after releasing Youth, his hit sophomore record, Matthew Paul Miller is still as popular as ever.

Three years after releasing Youth, his hit sophomore record, Matisyahu is back with new disc Light.

That fact that his new album, Light, is high on many people's must-have lists is all the more impressive considering he hasn't released a disc since 2006 and didn't tour for chunks of 2008 and 2009.

"The next record I make I'll try to not wait so long before I get started with it," he says on the phone from his home in Brooklyn. "I didn't want to work on the record while I was touring, but I was on the road for a while after the first record came out."

He eventually stopped travelling to work on the disc, then took time to find the right promotion team, and just before he was originally scheduled to release the record — in 2008 — he decided to make some changes to his songs.

"It was a learning curve, but I now have the sense of how to get these things done faster," he says.

The final product might surprise some of his die-hard fans — it's a lot less reggae than his previous disc. We Will Walk sounds like a U2-meets-Sublime mash-up, Escape's verses are straight-up hip-hop, and Motivate has a Linkin Park-esque rock chorus. There are still plenty of the reggae-lite sounds that made him famous, but this is easily Matisyahu's most diverse effort of his career.

There's also a bit of a shift lyrically. The singer doesn't talk as explicitly about Torah or God as he did on the last disc. But that doesn't mean the songs weren't inspired by his religion.

"I'll take an idea from a story or prayer, or a concept from the Hasidic philosophy and find something that really gets me going," he explains. "I'll think about that idea and how it resonates in me and try to write from an intuitive place."

For Matisyahu, just the act of playing and connecting with an audience is spiritual too.

"That's where the real love is happening," he says. "It gives me a certain strength to continue. I feel involved in something that's bigger than I am and I can't stand in the way of it."

Weekend box office

The Final Destination is the No. 1 film at the box office.

1. **The Final Destination:** $28.3 million US
2. **Inglourious Basterds:** $20 million
3. **Halloween II:** $17.4 million
4. **District 9:** $10.7 million
5. **G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra:** $8 million
6. **Julie & Julia:** $7.4 million
7. **The Time Traveler's Wife:** $6.7 million
8. **Shorts:** $4.9 million
9. **Taking Woodstock:** $3.7 million
10. **G-Force:** $2.8 million

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Noel Gallagher quits Oasis

Because he couldn't imagine working "a day longer" with his younger brother Liam, Oasis guitarist and leader Noel Gallagher has quit the band. In a statement on the band's website, Gallagher said he's leaving "with some sadness and great relief." POPEATER.COM

⊕⊕⊕⊕⊕ A CLASSIC; ⊕⊕⊕⊕ EXCELLENT; ⊕⊕⊕ GOOD; ⊕⊕ FAIR; ⊕ POOR

JoBros still mired in teen pop

Jonas Brothers

Venue: Rogers Centre
Rating: ⊕⊕½

IAN GORMELY
for Metro Canada

ConcertReviews
music@metronews.ca

JOHN KENNEDY/FOR METRO CANADA

The Jonas Brothers hit the stage last night at the Rogers Centre.

Having conquered the Disney Channel set, Jonas Brothers are now grasping for what all teenage pop stars so desire: Credibility.

And Joe, Kevin and Nick are on their way, gracing the cover of Rolling Stone twice and rocking the Grammy Awards with Stevie Wonder.

But based on the screaming reception they received from the hordes of tween-aged girls who packed into the Rogers Centre last night, the band isn't about to shake its teen idol status anytime soon.

Of course, taking Disney Channel and American Idol alumni out on tour as openers doesn't help. Honor Society, a four-piece signed to the Jonas Brothers' vanity record label, kicked off the night playing pop-punk inspired rock tunes and did an admirable job of hyping the crowd.

Wonder Girls, a five-member South Korean girl group, were up next and sang exactly one song, sandwiched between a dancing lesson and some blatant self-promotion. Bringing us back to reality, sixth season American Idol winner Jordin Sparks stalked the massive stage in heels without missing a note of her R&B tinged pop tunes, including mega-hit Tattoo.

But this was all distraction to the sold-out crowd that shrieked each time the headliner's name was mentioned. And the aural pandemonium that ensued as the boys emerged from below centre stage playing Paranoid was nothing short of deafening.

The brothers certainly proved capable of putting on a show to rival the size of a venue like the Rogers Centre. Playing "in the round" — with the stage set in the middle of the stadium rather than at one end — kept the trio on the move throughout the night. They even brought out fellow Camp Rock cast member Demi Lovato to duet on This Is Me.

But while all three are kinetic live performers, their songs lack the unique character necessary to carry the group to the next level of superstardom. Hold On and Fly With Me may electrify their young fans, to older ears it's all been done before and done better.

Jonas Brothers may be shooting for rock stardom, but with a live show that emphasizes spectacle over substance the trio isn't quite ready to make the leap. But with a stadium packed full of screaming girls, is that such a bad thing?

Virgin Festival pulls it off

Virgin Festival

Venue: Molson Amphitheatre
Rating: ⊕⊕⊕⊕

KEITH CARMAN
for Metro Canada

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Ben Harper performs Saturday at the Virgin Festival.

Festival concerts can be a dodgy affair. Everything from technical difficulties and scheduling nightmares to uppity musicians and mismatching of genres can render even the best-laid plans a debacle.

Somehow, in its fourth year on Hogtown soil, the Virgin Festival has pulled off the impossible: Amalgamating endlessly changing variables into a cohesive, enjoyable affair. It pleases with just the right ratio of talent to timing and music to distractions. Packed with everything from singer-songwriters and hip-hop to indie gods and blues freaks, the 2009 edition of Virgin Festival was an endless onslaught of sensory overload. Yet despite a stream of diversions such as Thai massage, autograph tents and burlesque pole dancing, music was still the focus.

Starting off modestly, the first day was a slow burner. Not until early-evening did the ample audience show enthusiasm as Scottish outfit Franz Ferdinand revved 'em up. Garnering the most praise, no doubt due to their influencing virtually every other band on the bill, The Pixies nailed a set full of favourites. Still, while Ben Harper was no slouch, even his blues-rock was no match for the indie heroes.

A decidedly more showy feel overtook the Amphitheatre for Day 2. '80s throwbacks Datarock amused via matching tracksuits and generous synth samples, Mutemath performed a three-man, one-kit drum solo, and rock/funk/hip-hoppers N.E.R.D. brought the party (and concertgoers) onstage. Still, it was the double finale of 25-year-old electronic duo Pet Shop Boys and sinister cult hero(es) Nine Inch Nails that ensured the festival was a raucous success. With PSB boasting the only full-fledged multimedia extravaganza via video, lights, iconic '80s imagery and, er, shoulder pads, their spirited commingling of past and present was as engaging as it was fun.

As for Nine Inch Nails' reportedly final Canadian show, it was a shocking shot of stellar rage delivered with professionalism and gusto, especially when main man Trent Reznor started smashing instruments a mere three songs into the set. While Reznor shows no signs of slowing down, it was still sad to think that such a spotless gig could be the last time we catch him.

5TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

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Bentley sued by AmEx

American Beauty actor Wes Bentley is allegedly in hot water with American Express — which is suing him for over $90,000 US. According to the lawsuit, Bentley opened a Gold Account with AmEX, charged up $92,738.86, and never paid it off. TMZ.COM

Peer into Canadian brains

We Know What **You're Thinking**

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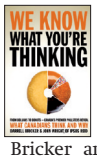


Darrell Bricker and John Wright make their livings by telling Canadians about themselves. Now, the high rankers at Canadian market research company Ipsos Reid have compiled choice data on regions, business and individuals, from the humorous through the serious to the shocking, in this new collection of homegrown facts and figures. They discover Albertans are more likely to take a parent to a movie date instead of Hollywood hotshots, Canadian women overwhelmingly prefer the beach for a romantic moment, most doubt the tenets of the environmental movement and Canadians generally don't believe in ghosts, except in the Prairies, where most do.

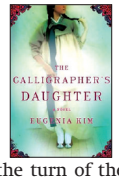
Michael Jackson: The Magic, The Madness, **The Whole Story**

Author: J. Randy Taraborrelli
Publisher: Grand Central Publishing
Price: $22.99 (Hardcover)

Thursday marks the funeral of the late King of Pop, Michael Jackson, days after what would have been his 51st birthday. In commemoration of his death, J. Randy Taraborrelli has re-released an updated version of his thorough chronicle of the troubled star's life, including his final days. At a whopping 765 pages, the 12-part account contains a detailed history of Jackson, including his childhood introduction to music. Having spoken with Jackson since they were children, Taraborrelli's analysis presents an honest portrait of a man misunderstood.

The Calligrapher's **Daughter**

Author: Eugenia Kim
Publisher: Henry Holt
Price: $33 (Hardcover)



After the turn of the 20th Century, Korea is in a struggle between tried traditions and contemporary practices, a battle reflected in Najin Han's life. While her calligrapher father wants her to marry young to secure the upper-class mate he's found for her, Najin's mother refuses, instead sending her to the royal court to find finesse. Najin flourishes, attending college and becoming a teacher while gaining wealth and status. But as the Second World War approaches, poverty and suspicions of being a spy ravage her, as the Japanese gradually overtake the country and people young and old endeavour to understand their place.

— BRIAN COULTON/ FOR METRO CANADA

BookPicks

Munro waves off Giller Prize

AUTHOR Literary legend Alice Munro won't be competing for this year's Scotiabank Giller Prize because she wants younger authors to get a crack at the award, her publisher said Friday.

The two-time winner was adamant that she didn't want her latest book, the short story collection Too Much Happiness, to be considered for the prize, said McClelland and Stewart publisher Douglas Gibson. This year's Giller will be handed out at a gala ceremony on Nov. 10. It's the most lucrative literary prize in Canada, with $50,000 going to the winner, and $5,000 to each of the finalists.

Gibson said they had "a number of conversations" about taking Munro out of the running, since it will means her book — which hits stores Saturday — will lose out on untold amounts of free publicity.

"From a publisher's point of view it's too bad but it's absolutely understandable and this is Alice Munro, she's a genuinely nice person," he said.

"It's very hard to say no to someone who's being so generous and it's always hard for me to say no to Alice Munro, so of course we went along with her."

"I wouldn't try and talk her out of it, I wouldn't presume to do that."
Elana Rabinovitch, Giller publicist

Giller organizers said they were somewhat disappointed by Munro's decision. Acclaimed author Margaret Atwood also has a new book out this fall and the possibility of two literary heavyweights vying for the prize would have made for an especially suspenseful Giller night.

But no one tried to change Munro's mind, said Giller publicist Elana Rabinovitch. "I wouldn't try and talk her out of it, I wouldn't presume to do that," she said.

Munro won the Giller in 1998 for The Love of a Good Woman and in 2004 for Runaway.

The only other writer to win the Giller twice is M.G. Vassanji. Other past winners include Mordecai Richler, Margaret Atwood and Michael Ondaatje.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mix of Six

Metro taps into today's best entertainment and event picks

BLING The Art Gallery of Ontario is exhibiting an astounding array of gems — with few rivals outside of the royal collections — from the private collection of Michael Scott, first CEO of Apple. 100 Queens Park, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. rom.on.ca.

MUSIC The Drake's indie rock showcase Elvis Monday features Whale Tooth, Mad Highway, Frank Navada and People of Canada. The Drake Underground, 1150 Queen St., W. 9 p.m. Free.

THE EX Although Exhibition Place is known for its bright lights and entertaining shows and events, lurking below the surface are a few well-kept secrets you can discover during the CNE After Dark exhibit. theex.com

COMEDY The Second City's Panic! Everybody's Doing It! incorporates some of the best scenes and songs from The Second City's history as well as original satire ripped from today's headlines. 51 Mercer St. 8 p.m. $12.

TORONTO ZOO Things have gotten a little fishy at Toronto Zoo, which is currently exhibiting Sharks and Stingrays through Oct. 12. North of Hwy 401 on Meadowvale RD. torontozoo.com

THEATRE László Marton directs The Guardsman — a timeless comedy by Hungarian master Ferenc Molnár — for Soulpepper Theatre. Young Centre for the Performing Arts, 55 Mill St. soulpepper.ca

• Have an event you would like to see listed? Send an email to listings@metronews.ca or tweet it to @metrotoronto

In brief

ART It's pop art for the King of Pop. Thirty young Austrian artists are displaying works exploring facets of Michael Jackson at a special exhibition in Vienna. The show opened Saturday at Vienna's Jennyfair gallery and runs through Sept. 19. It features paintings, film clips and mixed-media works.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kenya's**Style**
Kenya Hunt
Read the blog at metronews.ca/kenyasstyle

For complete online movie listings, trailers, reviews and tickets, visit: metronews.ca/movies

8/31/09

TO	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	265	353	2	TVO	Time Team "Early Bath"	The Agenda With Steve Paikin		Midsomer Murders		Auschwitz:Nazi-Final Solution		Agenda-Paikin
	211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	House "Saviors"		Lie to Me "Better Half"		Bones (HDTV)		News
	215	343	4	OMN1	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	Omni News: Italian Edition (N)		Vivere Il	Omni News:	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
	210	302	6	CBC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy!	Little Mosque	Sophie (HDTV)	Comedy Fest.	Comedy Fest	CBC News: The National		The Hour
	214	344	7	CITY	Law & Order: SVU		Murdoch Mysteries		Valentine		Man Tracker (DVS)		News
	212	313	8	CTV	etalk	Hollywood	Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CTV News
	218	345	11	E!	*Parenthood* ★★★ (1989, Comedy) Steve Martin.				*Rocky* ★★★★ (1976, Drama) Sylvester Stallone, Talia Shire.				News at 11 (N)
	137	763	13	TFO	Panorama été	Météo	Rebut global	Villages	*L'Appât* (1995, Drame) Marie Gillain, Olivier Sitruk.				Météo
	-	-	14	-	Raymond	According-Jim	Omni News: S. Asian Edition		Omni News: Cantonese Edition		Two/Half Men	King	TBA
	213	326	15	SUN	The Insider (N)	George Lopez	One Tree Hill (HDTV)		To Serve and Protect		Dateline NBC		Hitchcock Pres
	-	387	16	CBS	Inside Edition	Hollywood	How I Met	How I Met	Two/Half Men	Big Bang Th	CSI: Miami (HDTV)		News 4 at 11
	-	385	17	NBC	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Dateline NBC		News
	-	386	18	ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy!	CMA Music Festival: Country's Night to Rock (HDTV) (N)						News
	219	346	20	ACH-B	The Road to Avonlea		Gossip Girl "Valley Girls"		Two/Half Men	Gary Unmarr	Stargate Atlantis (DVS)		A News
	-	-	28	FOX	Judge Judy	Two/Half Men	House "Saviors"		Lie to Me "Better Half"		Seinfeld	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
	-	388	61	PBS	News-Lehrer	Time Goes By	Antiques Roadshow		History Detectives (N)		Dickens' Secret Lover		Business Rpt.
	297	652	330	WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	One Tree Hill (HDTV)		Gossip Girl "Valley Girls"		PIX News at Ten Tong.		Two/Half Men
	296	654	331	SBK	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy!	Dr. Phil (HDTV)		WBZ News (N)	'70s Show	Frasier	Frasier	Punk'd
	298	653	332	TLA	Jamie Foxx	Wayans Bros.	My Wife-Kids	According-Jim	Friends	KTLA News	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	One Tree Hill
news	502	390	26	NW	CBC News	Our World	CBC News: Tonight (N)		CBC News: The National		Princesses of the World		National
	500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown (N)		Larry King Live (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
	509	504	79	CNB	Kudlow Report		CNBC Reports		Crime & Punishment		Dirty Money: Prostitution		Mad Money
sports	405	417	22	net	The Pen	Jays	MLB Baseball Toronto Blue Jays at Texas Rangers. (HDTV) (Live)						Sportsnet Con.
	400	400	30	TSN	Tennis U.S. Open, Men's & Women's First Round. (HDTV) From the USTA National Tennis Center in Flushing, N.Y. (Live)								SportsCentre
	411	457	58	OLN	Ghost Hunters		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Survivorman		Ghost Hunters		Bounty Hunter
	417	406	81	SC	Pimp My Ride	Pass Time	NASCAR Hall of Fame (HDTV)		SuperCars	SuperCars	Barrett-Jackson		Car Crazy (N)
family	551	542	25	YTV	The Next Star		The Penguins	Malcolm-Mid.	League-Evil	Zixx Level	The Next Star 2		Mystery Hnt.
	554	544	45	TEL	Jimmy Two	Total Drama	6TEEN	6TEEN	Futurama	Punch	Robot Chicken	American Dad	Moral Orel
	556	540	51	FAM	Wizards-Place	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
	602	567	27	W	Old Christine	Friends	Friends	Style by Jury	Love It or List It		House-Sell	Save Us-House	Love It-List It
cable variety	570	580	29	MM	One Tree Hill		You Can Dance		So You Think You Can Dance Canada				Dance
	615	520	31	A&E	Criminal Minds (HDTV)		Intervention "Jeff"		Intervention "Marci" (N)		Hoarders "Tara; Betty"		Paranormal
	700	800	35	TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	Maigret: L'Ombra Cinese				George Lopez	George Lopez	George Lopez
	571	581	36	MMM	The Daily Fix		Ranked!		Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out	Brooke Knows	Brooke Knows	The Daily Fix
	575	583	38	CMT	Dedicated "Tara Oram" (N)		Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Reba	Reba	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Greatest
	616	521	39	SHO	The Outer Limits		*Disaster Zone: Volcano in New York* (2006, Action)				Bones "Pilot"		NCIS
	620	523	40	BVO	Grasslands-Heaven		Raising the Bar		Crossroads of Rock N' Roll		Bravonews	McLauchlan	Law & Order
	601	562	41	SLC	Skin Deep	Til Debt-Part	Newlywed	Newlywed	Nearly Dead	Nearly Dead	In Laws	In Laws	ET Canada
	522	506	43	HIS	World Without Humans		Nostradamus: 2012 Predictions of cataclysm.				*Deep Impact* ★★ (1998, Drama)		
	625	548	44	COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	22 Minutes	Comedy Now	The Simpsons	South Park	Michael Loftus: Changed		Jeff Dunham
	600	564	46	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	For Rent	Income Prop.	Marriage	My First Place	House Hunters	House Hunters	Holmes-Homes
	294	529	47	TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	House-Payne	House-Payne	*Air Force One* ★★★ (1997, Suspense) Harrison Ford, Gary Oldman.				
	576	582	49	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live		*Menace II Society* ★★★ (1993, Drama) Tyrin Turner.				Frankie, Neffe	Tiny & Toya	W. Williams
	627	528	50	SPC	Stargate Atlantis (DVS)		Star Trek: Voyager		*Swarmed* (2005, Suspense) Michael Shanks, Carol Alt.				Stargate SG-1
	581	566	52	MTV	Cribs	After	MTV News	Parent Control	16 and Pregnant		16 and Pregnant "Life After Labor"		
	618	524	54	TROP	Raymond	Raymond	The Outer Limits		ET Canada	Comeback	Family Guy	Raymond	Raymond
	603	561	56	FOOD	Ricardo	David Rocco	Food Jammers	Food Jammers	Restaurant Makeover		At the Table	At the Table	Restaurant
	261	394	60	V	Murder, She Wrote		Green Grass	Summer Wine	The Nature of Things		A Deadly Silence		Poltergeist
	621	527	63	STR	The Ellen DeGeneres Show		TMZ (N)	etalk	Canada's Next Top Model		Tonight Show-Conan O'Brien		TMZ
	553	546	65	TRE	Backyardigans	Nght Grdn	Max & Ruby	Franklin	Little Bear	Bucket-Dinos	Big Comfy	Big & Small	Max & Ruby
	115	711	101	TVA	Les Gags	A comm	Le Petit Monde	Laura Cadieux	Monk (HDTV) (SC)		TVA 22 heures	Sucré-salé	*Ya, Ya, mon*
	126	730	102	RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI économie	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	526	507	249	VIVA	Judging Amy		Missing		The Closer		Da Vinci's Inquest		Mediums
	300	601	301	M1	Stargate Atlantis		Sanctuary "Kush"		Durham County		Nurse Jackie	Penn & Teller	Dexter
	305	612	306	PIX	*Dragonheart*	(7:20) *The Fourth Angel* ★★ (2001)			*Star 80* ★★ (1983, Biography)			*The Boston Strangler*	

critics'corner

Sophie
Now, see, this is why one should never, ever burn one's bridges, especially in showbiz. A certain casting director was on the receiving end of some harsh treatment from Estelle (Sara Botsford) years ago. Now guess who needs work and has to make nice with said casting director. Judith (Mimi Kuzyk) has a new roommate: Ophelia (Chantelle Chung). Natalie Brown also stars in "The Casting Couch." 8:30 PM on CBC

CMA Music Festival: Country's Night to Rock
Trace Adkins, Jason Aldean, Dierks Bentley, Brooks & Dunn, Kenny Chesney, Julianne Hough, Kid Rock, Lady Antebellum, Miranda Lambert, Martina McBride, Reba McEntire, Brad Paisley, Darius Rucker, Sugarland and Taylor Swift are scheduled to perform during this three-hour special culled from the perennial popular country music festival held in Nashville, Tenn., last June. Cameron Mathison hosts. 8 PM on ABC

No whiners allowed: Chris

Coldplay's Chris Martin has a major pet peeve: People who whine about their success. "I hate people who complain about being famous," Martin said, according to Showbiz Spy. "I've got my dream life at the moment. I'm not going to complain ..." METRO WORLD NEWS

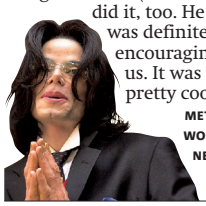
Celebrity Buzz

Mark recalls being 'Bad'

BOYS BEHAVING BADLY Celebrating the life of Michael Jackson, DJ and producer Mark Ronson fondly remembers hanging out with the singer in New York during the Bad tour with pal Sean Lennon.

"He had an after-party at his hotel room at the St. Regis and we were making soggies — toilet paper made into a wet ball — and chucking them from the penthouse," Ronson, who was around 12 at the time, told the New York Post.

"It was a terrible, bratty thing to do. But (Michael) did it, too. He was definitely encouraging us. It was pretty cool." METRO WORLD NEWS



Celebrity tweets

Diablo Cody gets rebellious a few years late, Jason Mraz gets philosophical, and Miley Cyrus has trouble living without modern conveniences.

• @diablocody I wasn't allowed to have Crystal Light as a kid, but now I have it every day. In your face, Mom! GLAMOUROUS DIET DRINK!

• @jason_mraz Affirmation. I am in harmony with all of the people, places, and things that surround me in this world. I am at peace.

• @mileycyrus The A/C is broken in my house :(Can't sleep in this sauna of a room! Ahh. METRO WORLD NEWS

Shania's new outlook on life

STARTING FRESH More than a year after splitting from her husband following his affair with her best friend, Shania Twain took to her official site to tell fans she's doing great and to announce her new relationship, usmagazine.com reports.

On Friday, the country singer's 44th birthday, she posted a personal letter and a 15-minute video travelogue of her most memorable moments from the past year.

"I feel very alive and well, ready to take on the gift of another year," Twain wrote. The star split from her husband, Robert (Mutt) Lange in May 2008 after he had an affair with her longtime best friend, Marie-Anne Thiebaud.

"I consider myself on a journey of discovery and recovery," she said of life post-split. "I don't accept to be held down by the past, nor do I expect too much of the future."

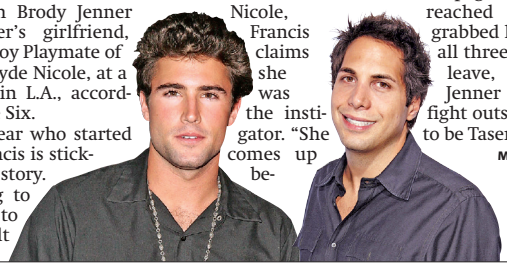
Who is accompanying Twain on that journey? Thiebaud's ex-husband, Frederic Thiebaud, whom Twain calls "a dear friend and true gentleman."

"We leaned on one another through the ups and downs, taking turns holding each other up. We've become stronger and closer through it all." METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebs go wild in bar brawl

FIGHT FIGHT FIGHT! Girls Gone Wild honcho Joe Francis got into a bar brawl with Brody Jenner and Jenner's girlfriend, 2008 Playboy Playmate of the Year Jayde Nicole, at a nightclub in L.A., according to Page Six.

It's unclear who started it, but Francis is sticking to his story. "I'm going to the police to file assault charges," said Francis. While Jenner told TMZ that Francis attacked Nicole, Francis claims she was the instigator. "She comes up behind me, pushes me, and then dumps a glass of champagne on me, so I reached around and grabbed her hair." After all three were asked to leave, Francis says Jenner continued the fight outside — and had to be Tasered by security. METRO WORLD NEWS



No glamour to George's injury

WHOOPS Despite earlier reports that George Clooney had injured his hand in a motorcycle accident in Switzerland, his spokesman says the actor broke his hand by closing a car door on it outside his Italian home. "The doctor has given him 30 to 40 years more to live, and no live animals were harmed during the wrapping of the hand," he said. METRO WORLD NEWS

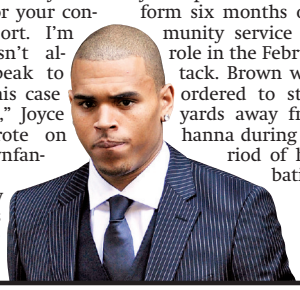
Mom thanks supportive fans

ON SON'S BEHALF Just days after Chris Brown was formally sentenced for beating Rihanna, his mother finally addressed fans about the ordeal, popeater.com reports.

"I just want to say from the bottom of my heart thank you for your continued support. I'm sorry I wasn't allowed to speak to anyone as this case was ongoing," Joyce Hawkins wrote on thechrisbrownfanclub.com.

"I can now say this has been the most painful moment in my entire life, but knowing that you were still standing by Chris' side in his time of need made this a little easier for us," she added.

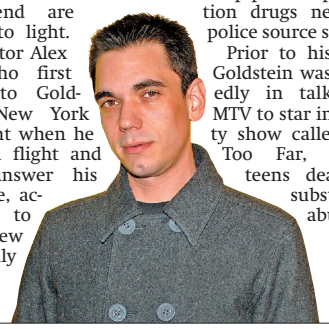
Last week, a judge ordered Brown to serve five years probation and perform six months of community service for his role in the February attack. Brown was also ordered to stay 100 yards away from Rihanna during the period of his probation. METRO NEWS SERVICES



Details of DJ AM's death emerge

TRAGIC END As friends and loved ones react to the death of DJ AM, whose real name was Adam Goldstein, details about his tragic end are coming to light. It was actor Alex Burn who first rushed to Goldstein's New York apartment when he missed a flight and didn't answer his cellphone, according to the New York Daily News. After calling police to break the door down, they reportedly found Goldstein face down on his bed, with a crack pipe and prescription drugs nearby, a police source says.

Prior to his death, Goldstein was reportedly in talks with MTV to star in a reality show called Gone Too Far, helping teens deal with substance abuse. METRO WORLD NEWS



Romance rumours justifiable

THAT TOTALLY MAKES SENSE Kristen Stewart "understands" why people think she is dating Robert Pattinson, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The actress has been continuously romantically linked to her Twilight co-star and although she admits they are "close," Stewart claims they are just pals. She said: "Robert and I are great friends but I understand why you would assume that, when we lean on each other for support, there must be something more. "And I'm not criticizing anyone for thinking it either. If anything, they're really perceptive because they can see a closeness." METRO NEWS SERVICES

Jason attacked by monkey

MAYBE IT WASN'T A FAN? While on a backpacking trip to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the American Pie film, actor Jason Biggs was caught off guard in Gibraltar when a monkey jumped on him and tried to bite his face off, according to Gatecrasher.

"Jason's travelling companions managed to fend the beast off and Jason thankfully wasn't seriously hurt, just shaken up," a source said. Biggs reportedly ended his trip early after the attack and headed back to the United States. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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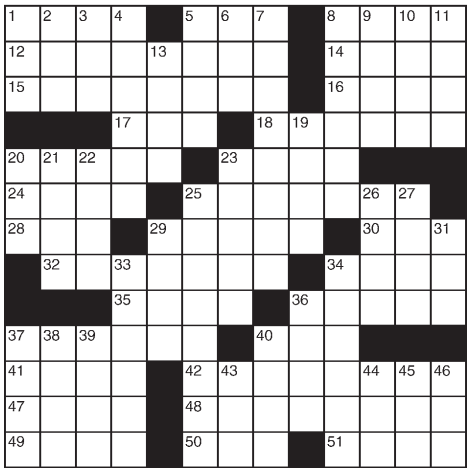

ACROSS

1 Ali —
5 Spanish article
8 Surrounded by
12 Plentiful
14 Paddock papa
15 Morning-after woe
16 PC picture
17 Meadow
18 The same amount
20 Peptic problem
23 One-time Yugoslav leader
24 Twosome
25 Exceed a limit
28 Hot tub
29 Get more magazines
30 Rotation duration
32 Hollow quick bread
34 Stupor
35 Falsifier
36 GSN telecasts
37 Preserve to protect from decay
40 Diving bird
41 Change
42 Sweater type
47 Birthright barterer
48 Volcanic boom
49 Flight component
50 Poorly lit
51 Actress Paquin

DOWN

1 Scrooge's cry
2 Lawyers' org.
3 Chignon
4 Fisherman
5 Outflow from 48-Across
6 Indivisible
7 Sieve
8 I, Robot author
9 Isinglass
10 Press
11 Say it isn't so
13 Active person
19 Pack cargo
20 Boom times
21 Arctic European
22 "Arrivederci"
23 Piano man?
25 Made quite a few changes
26 Cheese choice
27 Demolish
29 Anger
31 "Of course"
33 Emphasize
34 John Lennon's last home
36 Swallow hard
37 Prior nights
38 Sail support
39 Highland hillside
40 Astringent
43 Mentalist Geller
44 Sportscaster Scully
45 A billion years
46 Genetic substance

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone — one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

3		6	1				7	
				3				
				4	5			1
9		2			4	5		
6		3				8		4
		4	6			7		3
7			4	9				
				6				
	9				1	3		5

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

3	4	9	6	7	2	1	8	5
5	6	1	8	3	9	4	2	7
8	2	7	4	5	1	3	6	9
7	3	8	1	9	6	2	5	4
9	5	4	7	2	8	6	3	1
2	1	6	3	4	5	7	9	8
4	9	3	2	8	7	5	1	6
6	7	5	9	1	3	8	4	2
1	8	2	5	6	4	9	7	3

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca

Metro Recipe of the Day

Fennel Stuffed Cod

INGREDIENTS:

1 cup (250 ml) plain yogurt
2-1/4 cups (550 ml) finely chopped fennel fronds, divided
1 tsp (5 ml) lemon juice
1 tsp (5 ml) snipped chives
1/8 tsp (0.5 ml) salt, optional
1/8 tsp (0.5 ml) pepper
2 celery ribs, chopped
1/4 cup (50 ml) chopped onion
2 to 4 tbsp (25 to 60 ml) vegetable oil
4 cups (1 l) stuffing croutons
1 cup (250 ml) chicken broth
2 eggs, beaten
4 cod or flounder fillets
1 medium lemon, sliced

METHOD:

1. For sauce, combine yogurt, 1/4 cup (50 ml) of fennel, lemon juice, chives, salt if desired and pepper in bowl. Cover and refrigerate 2 hours or overnight.
2. In small skillet, sauté celery and onion in oil until tender. Remove from heat. Stir in croutons, broth, eggs and remaining fennel. Spoon about 1 cup (250 ml) stuffing mixture onto each fillet; roll fish around stuffing.
3. Transfer to greased 2-qt. (2-l) baking dish. Top each with lemon slice. Bake, uncovered, at 350 F (180 C) 30-35 minutes or until fish flakes easily with fork and thermometer inserted into stuffing reads 160 F (71 C). Serve with fennel sauce.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Your thoughts may be rather heavy as the new week begins but that's good in that you need to get serious about what you're going to be doing.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Are you the victim of a plot or whispering campaign? Maybe, but more likely it is just your imagination playing tricks on you again.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
You may find it hard to understand why certain people act in certain ways, but there is no point getting uptight about it because they won't change.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Don't give up on a project just because you suspect the results will be less than you hoped for. Having come so far it would be a shame to abandon it now.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
You will start the week with high hopes but it won't be long before you realize that there are some serious obstacles up ahead.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
The planets indicate someone annoyed you over the weekend and you're determined to get back at them. But they're not worth the effort. Let it pass.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Don't take anything too seriously today: The planets indicate it will be hard to see the good things if you focus too readily on the bad.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
You would dearly like to help someone who is struggling but you know if you do they will never learn to look after themselves.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
You will have to work hard as the new week begins, mainly to catch up on all the things you should have done last week.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
Are you making the most of your time? That's what you need to ask yourself as the new week begins. The planets indicate you've let things slip.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
You may be tempted to tear down everything you have achieved and start again from scratch, but is that necessary? Don't junk the essentials.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
The cosmic setup means it's natural for you to worry, but don't let it get out of hand. This week you'll see you're on the verge of a breakthrough.

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